

Norway increases aid to UNRWA

AMMAN — The government of Norway has contributed \$4.58 million to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), the agency announced Sunday. The contribution for 1982 is an increase of about \$800,000 over the amount Norway originally pledged for this year. Since UNRWA began operations in the Middle East in 1950, Norway has contributed over \$30 million, the agency said. UNRWA provides health, education and relief services to about 1.9 million refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

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Jordan-PLO panel to meet

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian-Palestinian Joint Committee for the Support of the Inhabitants of the Occupied Territories will meet in the coming two days, Al-Jazeera newspaper reported on Sunday. The paper quoted informed sources as saying that the committee will discuss the situation in the West Bank in view of the new developments which have taken place following the Jordanian defence order on the so-called Village Leagues, the dissolution of Al-Birah Municipal Council and the Israeli threats to close the two bridges between the West Bank and Jordan.

Militiamen killed in Lebanon

BEIRUT (A.P.) — A bomb exploded at daybreak in the southern Lebanese city of Sidon on Sunday and three militiamen were killed in an exchange of gunfire in southern Lebanon, Beirut state radio reported. The radio said the bomb, which was placed near the central bank of the port city of Sidon, caused no casualties. Meanwhile, three militiamen were killed when gunmen in a speeding car opened fire on them, according to the radio which gave no other details. But the rightist-controlled Voice of Lebanon radio station said the three militiamen belonged to the pro-Iranian Amal (hope) militia. Fighting in the southern Lebanese village of Ain Qana and surrounding areas between Amal and the Lebanese Baath Party have left seven people killed and 16 wounded in the past 48 hours.

35,000 protest at Hiroshima

HIROSHIMA, Japan (R) — About 35,000 people took part in an anti-nuclear rally on Sunday at Hiroshima, the city devastated by an atomic bomb in August 1945, police said. Demonstrators called for an international treaty condemning the use of nuclear weapons, the establishment of nuclear-free zones around the world, and a reduction in nuclear arsenals.

U.S. denies Saudi paper report

RIYADH (A.P.) — The U.S. State Department spokesman was quoted here Sunday as denying reports that the Reagan administration plans to revive a strategic cooperation agreement with Israel following Israel's withdrawal from Sinai on April 25. State Department spokesman Dean Fisher was quoted by the Washington correspondent of the Saudi newspaper Al-Jazeera as saying President Reagan's instructions to suspend the agreement, because of Israel's annexation of Syria's Golan Heights last December, were still standing.

Iraq inflicts heavy losses on Iranians

BEIRUT (R) — Iraq said Sunday it forces killed 943 Iranians in fighting during the past 24 hours as its forces continued to advance in the Shush, Dezful and Ahwaz areas of Iran's southwestern province of Khuzestan. Quoting a military communiqué, the Iraqi News Agency said Iraqi planes raided Iranian positions in the northern and southern sectors of the front, inflicting heavy losses.

Conservatives set to win French polls

PARIS (R) — The conservative position seemed narrowly to have won Sunday's French local elections, seen as a test of the Socialist government's popularity for nine months in office. Television political analysts watching returns from 1,036 local cantons said early indications in the second round confirmed a swing to the right in last weekend's first round. They said the Socialists and their Communist junior partners apparently failed to mobilise enough support to stem the tide of last Sunday's conservative advance. Sunday's polling was to settle the outcome in seats where no candidate won an absolute majority last week.



Her Majesty the Queen Mother stands Sunday among orphans at the Umm Al Hussein Orphanage during a ceremony organised to mark Mother's Day. The orphanage is named after Queen Zein (Petra photo)

Queen Zein feted on Mother's Day

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Zein on Sunday attended a ceremony organised by the Umm Al Hussein Orphanage to mark Mother's Day. The ceremony was attended by Her Highness Princess Abla, Social Development Minister Izzat Al-Mufti, wives of several high-ranking officials and wives of Arab and foreign ambassadors in Jordan. The orphanage was founded in 1950 and cares for well over 200 orphans, who receive all kinds of services. Queen Zein contributed JD 1,000 to the orphanage, the Royal Court JD 600, the wife of the prime minister JD 800 and the wife of the speaker of the Upper House of Parliament JD 950. Other ladies, and the wives of Arab ambassadors, gave a total of JD 3,085.

Iranian pilot granted asylum in Saudi Arabia; jet returned

RIYADH (A.P.) — An Iranian pilot who defected to Saudi Arabia earlier this month has been granted asylum but his Phantom jet was returned to Iran, according to Saudi Defence Minister Prince Sultan. "The pilot has been given a free choice to decide the country where he will be living... (but) the plane was returned to Iran," Prince Sultan said in a statement published Sunday by the Saudi newspaper Al-Medina. Saudi Arabia issued a terse statement early this month on the affair after it was leaked by Kuwaiti newspapers. The Kuwait reports said that the pilot had attempted a pro-monarchist coup and that his flight to Saudi Arabia nearly resulted in a full-scale air battle between the Iranian and Saudi air forces. Prince Sultan's statement affirmed that Saudi Arabia and its five partners in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)—Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Bahrain, Qatar and Oman—"were capable of protecting themselves and preventing aggression." Iran warned the GCC states last week that it would consider it "a direct threat to Iran's security" if the six states were to "unify their policies along the lines of those states attempting to increase American influence in the Gulf region." The warning was made by Ahmad Azizi, Iran's under-secretary of foreign affairs, in an interview he made during a visit to the UAE last week.

Marcos meets King Khaled

BAHRAIN (R) — Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos arrived in Riyadh Sunday for talks with Saudi leaders expected to cover the Muslim autonomy issue in his country and bilateral cooperation. He was given a ceremonial welcome by King Khaled when he flew in from the port city of Jeddah, the Saudi Press Agency said. It said Mr. Marcos would discuss bilateral relations and international problems of common interest with the Saudi monarch and Crown Prince Fahd later on Sunday. Saudi Arabia heads a committee set up by the 43-nation Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) to help bring peace to the southern Philippines, where the Moro National Liberation Front has been waging a guerrilla war for self-rule for almost 10 years. The Saudis have said through their official press agency that they are paying close attention to the Muslim minority in the mainly Christian Philippines and to efforts to ensure their religious freedom and other rights. Gulf analysts said they believed that the Saudi leadership would probably urge Mr. Marcos to give the Jeddah-based OIC a fresh opportunity to arrange for negotiations between his government and the liberation front.

Lebanese rightist leader calls for Muslim-Christian dialogue

BEIRUT (A.P.) — Rightist militia leader Bashir Gemayel Sunday harshly attacked Palestinian and Syrian presence in Lebanon and called Lebanese Muslims to a dialogue to achieve unity and rid Lebanon of what he called foreign "occupation." The leader of the predominantly-Christian Falangist militia, in a speech marking Mother's Day, said: "I call on the Lebanese Muslim to tell him that the Middle East is sitting at the mouth of the volcano. The whole area is boiling. Let us be prepared for this explosion and face it together with a Lebanese decision with both its Muslims and Christians together." Describing Lebanon's Christians as the "natural allies" of the country's Muslims, Mr. Gemayel warned of what he described as "Syrian and Palestinian plots to brainwash" the Muslims. Mr. Gemayel, commander of the rightist Lebanese forces, earlier this week warned that his Falangist militia would be forced to take a

King chairs cabinet session

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday warned against current attempts for internationalising the conflict in the Middle East, which he said would destroy Arab identity and Arab character. The King called on all Arabs to support and assist one another in the face of all dangers and stressed that the current stage requires determination and resoluteness from all citizens. King Hussein was speaking during a cabinet session which was devoted to discussing Arab affairs in general and the situation in the occupied Arab territories in particular. "We are following with admiration and appreciation the steadfast and courageous attitude of the West Bank inhabitants who are confronting the Israeli aggression at a time when we are remembering the Battle of Karameh which had best manifested the true Arab spirit", King Hussein said. The King said: "With determination and resoluteness we will be able to repel the aggressor. We are determined to continue our confrontation of the challenges here and (against Iran) at the eastern front of the Arab homeland, faithful to the long national march which witnessed the martyrdom of a large number of Arab patriots who fell in the course of performing their national duty towards the future generations." At the outset of the meeting Prime Minister Moudar Badran thanked King Hussein for chairing the cabinet session "at a time when cabinet members are following the news of the West Bank inhabitants' steadfastness in the face of Israel's practices." King Hussein's "national stand to support Iraq in the face of Iranian aggression will remain a source of power and pride for all Jordanians who have already echoed their response", Mr. Badran said.

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GCC is not aligned against Eastern bloc, Bishara says

KUWAIT (A.P.) — The Arab Gulf countries are reluctant to exchange diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union and other East bloc countries because "they have no initiative in world affairs," the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) secretary-general has contended. "The absence of relations with the socialist states does not mean that the Gulf states are aligned against them," said Abdullah Bishara in a television interview on Saturday night. "Nor does the absence of relations mean that the Gulf states are in the embrace of the United States and the rest of the Western World." The main reason, he said, "is a GCC conviction that the East bloc countries have no initiative in world affairs." The GCC groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Bahrain, Qatar and Oman in an economic integration and collective security pact. Of the six countries only Kuwait has diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union and other East bloc countries. Mr. Bishara told the Kuwait state television that the Soviet Union "is involved in problems directly affecting the GCC member countries." He cited an Omani complaint that the Soviet Union "is playing a role in the Sultanate's dispute with its neighbour South Yemen." He also contended that establishing relations between the GCC countries and the Eastern bloc states will "in no way develop a balance in the GCC ties with the Western World." Mr. Bishara said that should the GCC opt for establishing diplomatic ties with Moscow, the Soviet Union stands to benefit from this. He did not explain this point. He insisted that the GCC countries were not against communism, pointing out that Oman has ties with communist China. Mr. Bishara disclosed that the question of exchanging diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union has been the subject of a dialogue now underway between the GCC member states. Asked for comment on the security situation in the Gulf region, Mr. Bishara said there can never be stability in the area until an "honourable and just solution" was achieved for the Palestinians. Mr. Bishara said the GCC countries "now serve as a political bridge between the Arab World and the West, for the sake of the Palestinians and other Arab questions." He revealed that there were differences between the GCC member states on the question of defence, saying that some are in favour of an indigenous defence force while others are not.

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7 Arabs hit by Israeli bullets as W.Bank uprising escalates

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli troops clashed with Palestinian demonstrators in the occupied West Bank Sunday for the third straight day and seven Arabs were wounded by gunfire, Israel Radio said. Three Israeli soldiers were injured by rock-throwing demonstrators and two tourists were hurt when their bus was hit with stones, the military said. General strikes also were reported in Arab East Jerusalem and in the occupied Gaza Strip town of Khan Yunis as the uprising continued in response to Israel's dismissal of the Palestinian nationalist mayor of Al-Birah. The military command confirmed that two Palestinians suffered gunshot wounds in demonstrations in Nablus, one was wounded in Halhoul and two were shot during protests in Jalazun refugee camp north of Ramallah. Israel Radio said an additional two Arabs were wounded at the refugee camp. A spokesman said Israeli troops used tear gas and fired into the air to disperse Arab demonstrators throwing rocks and burning tires in the roads, and shots were fired at the demonstrators' legs.

Mayors' resignations

Earlier Sunday, Israeli troops imposed a curfew on Ramallah as striking Palestinians staged large-scale demonstrations against the new Israeli occupation measures. The curfew in Ramallah followed an announcement by town Mayor Karim Khalaf that he was resigning. A few hours later he withdrew his resignation after coming under pressure from other Arab mayors to stay at his post. Mr. Khalaf, one of the leading figures in the West Bank, originally said he was resigning because "Israeli steps such as killing civilians, sealing off towns and imposing curfews" had made it impossible for the town council to function properly. Other West Bank mayors, among them Bassam Al-Shak'a of Nablus, criticised the move, saying any decision to resign should be taken collectively. After consulting with local leaders, Mr. Khalaf later said his resignation would not be effective because it had not been handed to Israeli occupation authorities. Elected in Israeli-supervised elections in 1976, the West Bank mayors support the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and oppose Israel's so-called autonomy plan for the West Bank and Gaza. Mr. Shak'a told reporters the Israelis however were likely to dismiss the other mayors. "But we hope outside pressure will make them think twice," he added. He said the mayors may resign collectively "if the Israelis continue their iron-hand policy and the (Palestinian) struggle against the civilian administration does not bear fruit."

The civilians were appointed by Defence Minister Ariel Sharon to take over some administrative tasks performed by army officers in the occupied territories. The mayors have refused to cooperate with them, saying they are part of a plan to perpetuate Israeli rule. Mr. Sharon, who is responsible for the West Bank and Gaza, briefed Sunday's weekly meeting of the Israeli cabinet on the protests. "Law and order in Judea and Samaria (West Bank) will be maintained," a cabinet spokesman said later. He reiterated that the government would never permit "any

separation of the territories from Israel."

Blockades, curfews

Reinforced army units set up road blocks at the entrances to Nablus, Ramallah and Al-Birah, banning residents from leaving or entering between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. A total curfew was clamped on Balata and Askar refugee camps after demonstrators blocked roads with burning tyres and pelted troops with stones. The army let off teargas and later fired bullets in the air and at the ground to disperse the crowds. Shops and factories were closed in most West Bank towns and students chanting PLO slogans disrupted classes at numerous schools. Demonstrations spread to the Gaza Strip where the army arrested about 40 students who took to the streets in the predominantly Palestinian town of Rafah. Trouble also erupted in Tel Aviv on Saturday night. Teargas was fired to break up a demonstration by Palestinian sympathisers in the city's main shopping boulevard.

Egypt following situation with 'concern'

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak consulted his foreign policy advisers Sunday on his country's relations with Israel amid reports of rising tension on the occupied West Bank. Foreign Minister Kamel Hassan Ali said after the meeting Egypt was inviting Israeli Defence Minister Ariel Sharon to come to Cairo shortly to iron out last minute problems over Israel's final withdrawal next month from the Sinai Peninsula. Referring to mounting tension on the West Bank, Mr. Ali said that Egypt was following the situation with great concern. His government was worried that the problems there could affect the chances of bringing the

Palestinians into talks between Israel and Egypt on "autonomy" for the West Bank Arabs. Officials said Mr. Ali had briefed the meeting about his trip to Israel last week. They said Israel had rejected Egyptian proposals on the demarcation of the border in Sinai at Taba, south-west of the Israeli port of Eilat, which called for international arbitration about a small strip of disputed territory. Foreign Ministry officials said a fresh round of the drawn-out autonomy talks due to have been held Sunday was postponed because of Israel's insistence that the negotiations be held in Jerusalem. Mr. Ali told reporters that

Egypt was in contact with the United States and Israel to fix a new date and agree on a venue for the talks to be held at expert level. Israel said to oppose withdrawal TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli state radio and television said on Sunday night government ministers had agreed Israel would not complete its evacuation of the Sinai next month if a settlement on border disputes with Egypt was not reached by then. Israeli officials had issued a warning to this effect some weeks ago but it appeared to have been dropped after recent visits by Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamel Hassan Ali.

Syria calls for U.N. meeting

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria instructed its permanent delegation at the United Nations on Sunday night to call for an urgent meeting of the Security Council to discuss the current violence in Israeli-occupied territories, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

One person has been killed and others injured in three days of clashes in the West Bank between Israeli forces and Palestinian strikers demonstrating against new Israeli occupation measures. The Syrian announcement followed a lengthy meeting in Damascus between Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam and Farouk Khaddam, head of the Political Department of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

The spokesman said the two men agreed Syria should request an urgent Security Council meeting to discuss the "serious situation" in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Golan Heights.

There has also been unrest in the Gaza Strip, while on the Golan Heights, taken from Syria in 1967, Druze residents have been on strike for more than five weeks in protest at Israeli annexation of the area.

The spokesman said Syria's U.N. delegation had also been asked to call for meetings of the Arab, Islamic and non-aligned groups to consider the situation in the occupied territories.

Arafat sends message of full support

BEIRUT (R) — Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), on Saturday night broadcast an emotional message of support for Palestinians in Israeli-occupied territories.

His declaration followed a day of protests in the occupied West Bank during which an Arab teenager was shot dead in a clash between stone-throwing demonstrators and Israeli troops.

"Blessed is every drop of pure blood which has perfumed the soil of the homeland and has flowed from the heart of a martyr or wounded person who was in the forefront of the courageous, heroic uprising," Mr. Arafat said in the message issued by the PLO news agency Wafa.

He told Palestinians in the occupied territories that "your tremendous steadfastness and your expensive sacrifices will be a sacred trust carried by the fighters from victory to victory."

Amman rally set today to express Iraq support

AMMAN (Petra) — A public rally will be held Monday at Al Hussein Youth City to express support for Iraq. Among the speakers at the rally, which will start at 4 p.m., will be Chief Islamic Justice Sheikh Ibrahim Al-Qattan, Interior Minister Suleiman Arar, Amman Mayor Issam Ajlouni and Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al-Tarawneh, as well as Emil Al-Ghori, Rif at Odeh, Dr. Ali Muhafza, Mrs. Haifa Al-Bashir and poet Suleiman Uweis.

The rally is yet another in a series of popular gatherings in various governorates to voice support for King Hussein's formation of the all-volunteer Yarmouk Force to fight alongside Iraq in the Gulf war.

Turkey, Kuwait open talks

KUWAIT (A.P.) — Visiting Turkish head of state, Gen. Kenan Evren, opened official talks Sunday with Kuwait's Ruler Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah. The talks, attended by senior ministers and advisors from both sides, were expected to centre on the possibility of Kuwaiti investments in Turkey and Arab calls on Turkey to sever diplomatic relations with Israel. Joint efforts to reconcile warring Iraq and Iran may also be taken up, sources said. Kuwait and Turkey are to serve as staging points for family visits to the prisoners of the Iran-Iraq war, a procedure for which arrangements are currently being made. Gen. Evren arrived Saturday for a three-day visit.

Beirut newspaper unveils alleged coup attempt in Egypt

BEIRUT (A.P.) — A Lebanese newspaper on Sunday said 14 persons were being tried "secretly" in an Egyptian military court for allegedly plotting a coup against Egyptian President Anwar Sadat before his assassination last October. The leftist Al-Safir newspaper, in a dispatch from Cairo, said it had obtained details of the trial proceedings. It did not say how it got the information but noted that the evidence uncovered has been kept out of the press. Al-Safir identified the mastermind behind the alleged coup plan as Lt. Isam Akin Al-Kumari and said the late President Sadat had referred to Al-Kumari in a speech before his death. A few weeks before he was killed during a military parade on Oct. 6, Mr. Sadat told a military gathering that: "There is one among you who is going to betray me. I know his name and I am going to get him." Al-Safir said Mr. Sadat was referring to Lt. Al-Kumari who had deserted from the army six months before the assassination. It said he was later arrested on Oct. 28 along with his accomplices during a government crackdown on Muslim fundamentalists and that several arms caches had been uncovered. It was at first assumed that the person referred to in Mr. Sadat's speech was Lt.-Col. Abdul Latif Al-Zomor, who was the mastermind behind Mr. Sadat's assassination. The Al-Safir report came one day after Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak ratified the death sentences of five Muslim militants and prison terms for 17 others convicted in Mr. Sadat's assassination.

NATIONAL

Al al-Bait Foundation plans first annual meet

AMMAN (J.T.) — Sixty scientists from various Islamic countries, including Jordan, will participate in the first annual conference of the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research (Al al-Bait Foundation) which will begin in Amman on April 10, the local press reported on Sunday.

The report added that the conference will discuss projects in Islamic civilisation studies and the permanent headquarters of the academy. Other topics for discussion include financial administration in Islam, consultation (shura) in Islam, a comprehensive index of the recorded Arab Islamic heritage, educational thought and the treatment of non-Muslims in Islam.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan presided over a meeting on March 13 to prepare for this conference. The meeting was attended by Yarmouk University President Adnan Badran.



Girl guides hold martyrs' pictures at Karameh Sunday (Petra photo)

Karameh anniversary marked

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian army and people on Sunday celebrated the anniversary of the Battle of Karameh, in which a joint force of Jordanian and Palestinian units beat back an Israeli invasion attempt after the June 1967 war.

Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker visited the monument of the battle's martyrs, and laid a wreath on the monument.

Meanwhile, a delegation representing the Federation of Jordanian Women and a delegation of the society of soldiers' families also laid wreaths on the monument.

Scouts, who came from the various governorates of the country, also laid wreaths on the monument. They sang national songs and carried pictures of the martyrs of the Battle of Karameh.

Processions were also staged in the streets of the city of Irbid to celebrate the occasion. Speeches were made expressing the significance of the anniversary, and citizens also visited the families of the martyrs who came from Irbid Governorate. The Irbid youth centre organised an exhibition of pictures relating to the battle, and Yarmouk University organised meetings and plays on the occasion.

A similar ceremony took place at the Karak secondary school. The ceremony was attended by a large number of citizens. Many speakers affirmed that the Battle of Karameh had proven that the Arab soldier is capable of fighting the Israeli enemy and of victory over him and that it had destroyed the image of the invincible Israeli army.

Similar processions were staged in Madaba on the occasion. High-ranking officials, schools, sports clubs, charitable societies and scouts participated in the Madaba ceremony.

Turkish Red Crescent chief leaves

AMMAN (Petra) — Turkish Red Crescent Society President Kemal Demir left Amman on Sunday at the end of a six-day visit to Jordan. Accompanied by a delegation, Dr. Demir held talks with Jordanian National Red Crescent Society President Ahmad Abu Qoura on ways of bolstering cooperation between the Turkish and Jordanian societies.

The two sides were reported to have agreed on a joint position to be adopted at the April 17 meeting of the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Geneva. They also stressed the importance of bilateral cooperation in humanitarian activities.

In a statement before departure, Dr. Demir paid tribute to the Jordanian Red Crescent Society's efforts, and projects it is implementing in the country.

Taiwan trade group arrives

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Taiwanese trade group arrived here Sunday for a five-day visit during which they will mount a display of their country's products.

The display, to be held at the Intercontinental Hotel Monday and Tuesday, will include textiles, electric and electronic apparatus, transportation equipment, leather products and furniture.

Tonight's the night!

AMMAN (J.T.) — The sound of Philadelphia (USA) has come to Philadelphia (Jordan). The historically-minded among us know that Amman in ancient times was known as Philadelphia; but how many of them realise that this city's namesake has produced its own distinctive brand of music? If you don't, you're way behind the times.

The Stylistics, one of the most polished, professional—and among the most successful—of Philadelphia musical groups; are now here. They will perform at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel Monday evening, and Intercontinental executive told the Jordan Times he could "still take a few more reservations" for the gala dinner show.

The Stylistics, famous for such smash songs as Betcha by Golly, Wow and You Make Me Feel Brand New, were formed out of two other groups—the Monarchs and the Percussions—in 1968. The group now has four members—Russell Thompkins, Jr.; Almir Love, Raymond Johnson and Herb Murrell.

CAEU to help Sudan develop statistics work

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) will provide Sudan with technical assistance to develop the functioning of its statistics offices, according to an agreement signed here Sunday.

The agreement, the second of its kind between the CAEU and Sudan, provides for developing Sudan's 22 statistics offices around the country at a cost of \$127,000. It was signed by CAEU Secretary General Fakhri Qadouri and Sudanese Ambassador to Jordan Ahmad Diab.

Following the signing ceremony, Mr. Diab made a statement in which he praised the CAEU's efforts to develop Arab states by providing them with technical assistance and expertise.

Karak resident goes on family shooting spree

KARAK (J.T.) — A man in himself and wounded himself with a small girl, in Karak on Sunday. Al-Ra'i newspaper reported.

It said that the 55-year-old man, identified as K.A., shot four bullets at his 10-year-old wife, identified as S.S., and a 10-year-old girl was also wounded by a stray bullet. The man shot himself and died immediately. The wife and the girl were taken to hospital.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Exhibitions

- * Twenty-five years of French Rock, at the French Cultural Centre.
- * A Deck of Cards, paintings on the theme of playing cards, at the British Council. Ends today.
- * An exhibition of Scandinavian Crafts and Design, at the Alia Art Gallery.
- * International Painters, at the Amman Marriott Hotel.
- * Movement and Line, drawings by Mohanna Durra, at the American Centre.

Lecture

- * A German-Arabic recital of Goethe's work from the collection of Jens Clasen, Karl Neuwirth and Laila Naim.

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NATIONAL



Future big-league champs line up to be tested on softball catching ability at the American Community School field

Tryouts give everybody a fighting chance

Leaguers show their stuff

Text and photos
by Marianne Pearson
Special to the Jordan Times

LITTLE LEAGUE players were tested at American Community School March 19 on their ability in three areas — throwing and catching ball, and running — and in one less directly related to baseball: pushups.

The purpose of the tryouts was to form balanced teams for spring season games, according to Little League Commissioner Paul Havestick. "It gives each team a chance to win," he said. Players were given scores between one and three on performances in each category. These were fed to a computer and averaged, to determine a fair amount of starting ability for each team.

Teams are grouped in leagues according to the ages of players. Five to eight-year-olds will play T-ball, a simplified baseball game for beginners. Players can develop their hitting and fielding abilities in a shorter (five-inning) game which has no pitchers.

T-ball teams are sponsored by six companies: International Traders, with Jim Craven and Chuck Baker coaching; Chase Manhattan, Howard Mahoney and Gary McGraw; Dr. Pepper, Dave Harris and Don Armstrong; Citibank, James Clune and H. Parkinson; Sheraton, Enrique Badillo

and Terry Weathers, and Arab Wings, Bob Carlson and Cris Felton.

Little League baseball is played by nine to 12-year-olds. Sponsors are Intercom, with Jim Bennett and E.J. Bertrand coaching; Jordan Express, Ken Eisenhardt; Telecom, Steve Harner; Foxboro, Chuck Eberle and Gene Rogers; Marriott, Ralph Brewer, and AIK, Bob DeLonge and Ray Tuberson.

Babe Ruth softball is for upper class students, 13 to 15 years old. Two teams were formed at first, but a Little League official said there were so many players registered in that age group that a third had to be organized. Laing sponsors a team coached by Mike Dash and Sy DeWitt, and ALICO one coached by Grady Hardister and Ivan Duke. The third team, formed only within the last two days, will be sponsored by Grindlays Bank.

Although teams in the other games are filled, Little League officials said latecomers may be included on a no-fee standby basis. Games will be played on Fridays between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

The season begins March 28, when the first ball will be thrown out by U.S. Ambassador Richard Viets.

Awards will be presented to players and sponsors at a picnic at the playing field on May 28, after playoff games.



Pushups: The acid test for physical endurance



A neophyte T-ball player demonstrates her catching style

Zarqa chamber helps students learn English

ZARQA (Petra) — The Zarqa Chamber of Commerce opened here Sunday two English language courses for secondary school students in Zarqa Governorate. Nearly 430 male and female students are attending the courses, which are offered free by the chamber with the aim of improving the students' command of English, the chamber's president said.

He added that five per cent of the chamber's annual revenues have been allocated for assistance to needy students, to help them acquire higher education at local and Arab universities.

The chamber last month held two similar courses, in which 600 students took part.

Jordan Times
Advertising Dept.
Tel: 67171

Today's weather

It will be fair, with medium and high clouds. Winds will be light and variable. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

	Overnight low	Daytime high
Amman	7	18
Aqaba	16	26
Deserts	8	22
Jordan Valley	14	25

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 18, Aqaba 26. Humidity readings: Amman 31 per cent, Aqaba 31 per cent.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Austrian envoy leaves

AMMAN (Petra) — Austrian Minister of State Hans Seidel left Amman Sunday after representing Chancellor Bruno Kreisky at the inauguration of the Arab potash project on Thursday. Dr. Seidel toured the country's archaeological sites and several development projects during his four-day stay. He was seen off at the airport by Finance Ministry Under-Secretary Abdul Majid Al Qasem.

Asfour sees Yugoslav envoy

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Industry and Trade Walid Asfour conferred here Sunday with the Yugoslav Ambassador to Jordan Dusan Zavanik. They discussed ways of bolstering economic and trade ties between Jordan and Yugoslavia.

Ibrahim, Romanian envoy confer

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Hassan Ibrahim conferred in his office Sunday with Romanian Ambassador to Jordan Andrei Cervencovici. They discussed the current conditions in the occupied Arab territories.

Health education symposium begins

AMMAN (Petra) — A regional symposium on nutrition and health education opened at Amman Hotel here on Sunday. Delegates from 14 Arab states are attending the symposium, which will review working papers on nutrition and its relationship with school curricula in Jordan, and malnutrition and its adverse effects on children, mentally and physically. The five-day symposium has been organized by the Ministry of Education in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

Meeting discusses elderly care

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Social Development's programmes to cater for the aged were discussed at a meeting Sunday grouping officials from the ministries of social development and health. Participants said that Jordan has more than 90,000 people at least 60 years old. Out of these, only 2,000 receive care from the Ministry of Social Development.

Wadi Rumm tourist camp planned

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities announced Sunday that it has started drawing up designs for a tourist camp to be set up at Wadi Rumm at a cost of JD 30,000, with the purpose of encouraging tourism to desert sites. There is already a tourist resthouse at Wadi Rumm to offer services to tourists visiting the site.

Tla' Al Ali to get park

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Social Development has donated JD 3,000 to Tla' Al Ali Municipality to help it establish a children's park in the town. A municipality spokesman said that the foundation stone for the park will be laid at a special ceremony to be held on Children's Day, April 21st.

Seminar on Zionist invasion set

AMMAN (Petra) — The University of Jordan will take part in a seminar on the Zionist cultural invasion of the Arab Nation, which will open in Tunis at the end of this month. The 20-day seminar will discuss steps to be taken to counter the impact of this invasion. Dr. Adel Hiyari of the university's Faculty of Commerce will attend the seminar.

Mafrqa telcoms improve

MAFRAQ (Petra) — The telecommunications department here says it has completed a project for expanding the telephone network for Sabha and Subhiya in Mafrqa District. The project entailed the addition of 200 new telephone lines to the area's central exchange, which earlier had a 150-line capacity. The department said a similar project is under way to expand the network at Amra and Amra, also in Mafrqa District.

Dry region centre chief leaves

AMMAN (Petra) — Arab Centre for the Study of Dry Regions and Arid Territories Director Mohammad Al Khish left Amman on Sunday at the end of a two-day visit to Jordan. During the visit, Dr. Khish met with Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hassan Al Momani and other officials, to discuss the centre's assistance to the ministry in water and desertification matters, especially in the Azraq region.

NRA chief back from meet on Hammad Basin project

AMMAN (Petra) — Natural Resources Authority (NRA) Director General Yusef Al Nimri returned here from Baghdad Saturday night after participating in a week-long meeting of the higher committee on the Hammad Basin project.

The committee, comprising representatives of Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Iraq, reviewed the project's progress, its programme and cost for 1981 and also endorsed a programme and a budget for the current year, Mr. Nimri said.

He added that the committee also approved an agreement between the project's management

and the Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development, under which 114 million Kuwaiti dinars will be channelled into the project to finance studies on animal and pasture wealth in the Hammad Basin, which borders on the four Arab states.

This year's programme includes the completion of a project to survey the basin aimed at defining pasture and animal resources, and the drilling of several artesian wells, Mr. Nimri added. These projects, he said, are expected to be completed before September

of this year. So far, work on the Hammad Basin project has cost \$1.7 million, to which Jordan contributed \$200,000 in cash and \$2.7 million worth of studies and drilling work

on artesian wells in the Jordanian sector. The whole area of the project is estimated at 170,000 square kilometres, of which 46,000 lie in Jordanian territory. Mr. Nimri said.

Yarmouk U. to host seminar on Arab university students

IRBID (J.T.) — A four-day seminar will open at Yarmouk University on April 17 to study the different aspects of the life of university students, the reasons behind Arab students' pursuit of higher studies and their classification according to scientific specialisation, nationality and institution.

The participants in the seminar will discuss the advantages these students receive from their scientific studies, self-teaching and participation in university educational activities. They will also study the students' social and economic situation. The seminar will be attended by representatives of Arab universities which are members of the Arab Universities Federation.

Meanwhile, a special committee has completed a project to study the objectives of the Islamic studies centre which will be established at Yarmouk University.

The project was a result of consultations the committee had with Dr. Ismail Al Faruqi, head of Islamic studies at Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The new centre aims at preparing and providing programmes for masters and doctoral degrees in various fields of Islamic studies. It also aims at activating Islamic thought and explaining and detailing the achievements of Islamic culture in various fields.

Popular demand brings back Betrayal for 2 performances

AMMAN (J.T.) — The playreaders, after the great success of their earlier performance of Harold Pinter's Betrayal, have scheduled a return to the stage. "Demand for seats was so intense that many people had to be turned away at the door," a member of the troupe said, and "interest in further performances has been so strong that two more performances have now been scheduled, one in Amman and one in Aqaba."

The play, which won the West End Award for best play of the year in London, will be put on at the Alcazar Hotel in Aqaba on Friday, March 26 at 7 p.m. The playreaders will then return to Amman and perform it one more time, at the British Council on Sunday, March 28 at 8 p.m.

"Both performances are open to all to attend," the member said, but judging by the response to the play's initial appearance, "advance booking would seem most advisable."

The production, whose cast includes Jill Sindall, Adrian Sindall, Nicholas James and Graham Lane, is directed by Malcolm Quantrell and Margot Bell.

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At your own risk

THE CONTINUING cycle of Israeli repression, killing and extremism in the occupied West Bank and Gaza will lead inevitably to counter-actions by Palestinians and other Arabs. Some of those actions, such as the resignations of Palestinian mayors, may ultimately facilitate the Israeli aim of fully controlling and administering all aspects of life in the occupied areas. But it is probable that the Arab World will get through this latest round of violence and counter-violence by becoming even more angry with the United States, because we have realised, after so many years of violence and humiliation, that it is impossible to separate American support for Israel from Israeli actions against the Arabs.

It is useful, in this context, and with the West Bank and Gaza under fire, to quote a passage from the latest annual report of the United States Joint Chiefs of Staff to the American Congress, submitted on February 12. The report stated: "The most dangerous threat to U.S. interests in the (Middle East and Southwest Asia) region arises from the proximity, power and behaviour of the Soviet Union."

If the American people and government honestly believe this, then they are setting themselves up for a calamity of incalculable proportions. It is Israeli bullets, financed by American grants, that are killing teenagers in Palestinian lands. It is American support, and apparent acquiescence, that permits Israel to dissolve Palestinian town councils, impose curfews on entire cities and impose a "civilian administration" to change the facade of its military occupation. The ability of the United States to ignore the failure of its policies towards the Palestinian-Israeli conflict and also to ignore the mounting and powerful anti-American sentiment in the region, in favour of insisting on a threat from the Soviet Union, will be recorded by history as one of the monumental human lapses of this century. The Israeli bullets killing Palestinian children are financed by Washington, not Moscow. This is the reality that numbs the spirit and the humanity of Arabs everywhere. One ignores it only at the risk of having it blow up in his face one day.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Barbarism at its extreme

AL RA'I: The Israeli occupation authorities have interpreted their rancour into bullets shot in Al Bireh assassinating a young man and wounding two girls. In Sinjel, the Israeli settlers have killed another young man while occupation soldiers fired tear bombs at the funeral procession. In Nablus, the Israeli army has stormed the municipality headquarters. In Jerusalem and Bethlehem, the Israeli soldiers have forced open Arab shops. The West Bank is fighting a bloody battle against terrorism and criminal actions being practised by the Israeli occupation authorities and the Israeli settlers at the same time.

What is taking place in the West Bank now is the very essence of savagery and barbarism and those who are keeping silent over what is happening are also barbarians and savages; and to those who are supporting the Israeli occupiers with funds and weapons and who are protecting them on the international level we say: Your policies are yielding bloody fruits in the occupied territories while the plight of the Palestinian people is being escalated by what you have offered and are still offering to the aggressor.

And to those who allege that they address the Arabs and Israel in the same language we say: Why the silence now? How will you explain to the African people the acts of terrorism being practised by Israel at a time when you have promised to help Israel resume its relations with African states? And to the European community we say: It seems that the shedding of Arab blood in the West Bank means nothing to the people who thrive on Arab oil. It appears that past European enthusiasm for Arab rights was at its best temporary.

The law of the jungle

AL DUSTOUR: Ramallah and Al Bireh have once again been turned into a garrison for the soldiers of the Israeli occupiers. The Israeli enemy is stressing to the citizens of these towns that their homes are occupied and that this, like death, is a confirmed fact. To prove this, the Israelis have killed a youth and wounded two girls.

Israel, besotted with the massive strength provided by U.S. weapons, has decided to proceed with aggression. It has declared Jerusalem as its capital, annexed the Syrian Golan Heights and infested the occupied territories with settlements stressing the fact that it is determined to Judaize all of Palestine. Israel is threatening Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and Saudi Arabia, which it considers a confrontation state, while the Arabs do nothing and keep silent as if they were determined not to confront the enemy and stand up to its challenges.

What is taking place in the Golan Heights against the villages of Bani Ma'rouf which have been besieged for weeks is well known. And what is being carried out around Al Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock and on every inch of the Holy Lands should be enough to stir Arab and Islamic dignity to confront this aggression.

We ask: What is to be done? The United Nations is unable to enforce its charter and stop aggression. The United States is not willing to stop supporting aggression. It does not intend to stop providing the enemy with support and weapons enabling it to proceed with its plans of aggression. The bitter fact is that we Arabs see these things taking place every day without doing anything. Should we cry out for a practical Arab stand? Should we call for a responsible Arab step to transcend all these unjustified squabbles and to confront the dangers threatening every Arab child all over the Arab Homeland?

Greece goes shopping for arms

The Greeks are determined to build up their own arms industry and are in the market for a strike aircraft.

By David Tonge

The Greek government is poised to enter the international arms market. It has decided to purchase strike aircraft and tanks and is determined to reduce the dependence of its 194,000-strong armed forces on U.S. weaponry.

Mr. Georgios Petros, the deputy minister of defence, is this month visiting West Germany as part of a concerted campaign to develop Greek links with European suppliers. Next month he will tour U.K. arms factories. He has already visited France.

"At the moment our programme is with countries of the West," he said in an interview, but he emphasised that the Papandreou government is not excluding any supplier from its calculations.

Greece is at present in the market for a strike aircraft. It has shortlisted the French Mirage, the

British-West German Tornado and the US F-16 and F-18. However, the deputy minister insisted that Greece is not merely seeking the aircraft but is looking for co-production.

The aim is to give substantial work to the Hellenic Aerospace Industry's works at Tanagra Air Base, 40 miles north of Athens.

This underlines the government's policy of building up its own arms industry. "Our basic aim is to convert the industry from one of servicing and renovating equipment to one making equipment," Mr. Petros said.

This is taking Greece deeper into the field of offset agreements. It is a relative latecomer, but over the past few years the base of its arms industry has started to widen.

It now consists of three state-controlled plants, one with mixed ownership and two in private hands but negotiating a sale to the state.

The diamond in Greece's crown is HAI's impressive modern plants which represent one of the largest investments made in Greece in the

past decade. These started as a jet engine servicing plant under Lockheed licence.

However, it has now begun to develop its electronics side and the government plans to insist that Greek electronics should be included in the fighter it buys.

A second company is the Greek weapons industry, with plans at Aegion and Lavrion. This started by making the West German Heckler and Koch rifle and is now also producing ammunition and a low-altitude air defence system, known as Artemis.

Valestinos in central Greece is the site of a tank repair factory, but the main focus of Greek hopes of developing an armoured vehicle industry is the Steyr Hellas plant in northern Greece.

Mr. Petros says that discussions are now under way with Steyr, the Austrian parent company, which retains 40 per cent of the equity of the company, over construction of an armoured personnel carrier, the Leonidas, at this plant.

He says the government is planning to take delivery of 100 Leopard tanks starting in August, but

he makes clear that in this area, too, the government is looking for offset work. This could lead to a tank section being added to the Steyr-Hellas plant.

For some years, Greek governments have been having the French-designed Combattante II/III fast attack craft built at the Hellenic shipyards of Mr. Stavros Niarchos, the ship-owner.

The present government is happy with this arrangement but is seriously exploring taking over Pyral, the Greek Powder and Cartridge Company, founded 108 years ago, and the country's oldest war firm.

Talks about taking over Pyral's plants in the Humettus area of Athens and in Lavrion have been going for several years but have run into difficulties over the value to be given to its owners, the large Bodisakis Foundation, for the land on which the company's plant is built.

Despite the uncertainty, the company has continued to invest and last year exported over half of its Dr\$4 billion (\$65.52 million) turnover.

Mr. Alexander Athanassiadis, the managing director of Pyral, says that the firm sells ammunition to NATO countries, the Middle East (but not Israel), Africa, Thailand and South America. Any sale to a non-NATO country requires the signature of the Greek prime minister.

The present government has set up a committee to see whether it will continue its predecessor's plans of taking over Pyral.

Mr. Athanassiadis complains that no recent government has been prepared to sit down to discuss its long-term weapons strategy. He also complains at the contracts he has lost because of the slow response by Greek governments to requests for export licences.

The visitor to Pyral's Hymettus works where 3,000 of the firm's 7,000 workers are employed finds that it is still discussing new shells and bombs and continuing to install heavy presses for shell manufacture and the latest computer-guided lathes.

— Financial Times news feature

Managua fears invasion

By Agustín Fuentes

Reuter

MANAGUA — Nicaragua's leftist government, saying that it is alarmed by what it sees as U.S.-inspired attempts to wreck its revolution, has suspended civil rights and introduced a 30-day state of emergency.

The measure allows the army and police sweeping powers of arrest and detention and forces all radio stations and newspapers to submit to government censorship.

Monday's announcement by Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the ruling junta, was prompted by the blowing up of two major bridges near the Honduran border the previous day.

Mr. Ortega accused the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) of training the right-wing guerrillas who the government believes crossed from Honduras to sabotage the bridges.

The events of the past few days followed reports in U.S. newspapers that President Reagan had authorised \$19 million to back a 500-strong commando force designed to destabilise this Central American country.

The commandos would also try to halt the alleged flow of arms and supplies to leftist guerrillas in neighbouring El Salvador, according to the reports which have not been confirmed or denied by the White House.

The reports were published in the New York Times and the Washington Post.

Nicaragua's government, led by Sandinista guerrillas who spearheaded the revolution which brought them to power in 1979, appears convinced that Washington is plotting its downfall.

Under President Reagan the United States has charged Nicaragua with using help from communist Cuba to export its revolution, particularly to El Salvador where a U.S.-backed government is struggling against a powerful insurgency.

Last year the U.S. cut off aid to the Central American country and Secretary of State Alexander Haig has hinted at possible action, even a naval blockade, against it.

The statement of the U.S. position "coincided with increased raids by Honduran-based followers of the late dictator, Anastasio Somoza, according to the Sandinista government."

Since then it has several times put on the alert the Nicaraguan army, which according to Washington now totals more than 20,000.

Nicaragua says its forces, which U.S. officials say also include 50,000 well-trained militia, are only for defence.

Defence Minister Humberto Ortega said recently that only Nicaragua's patience was preventing a war with Honduras which it accuses of providing covering fire for retreating anti-Sandinista guerrillas.

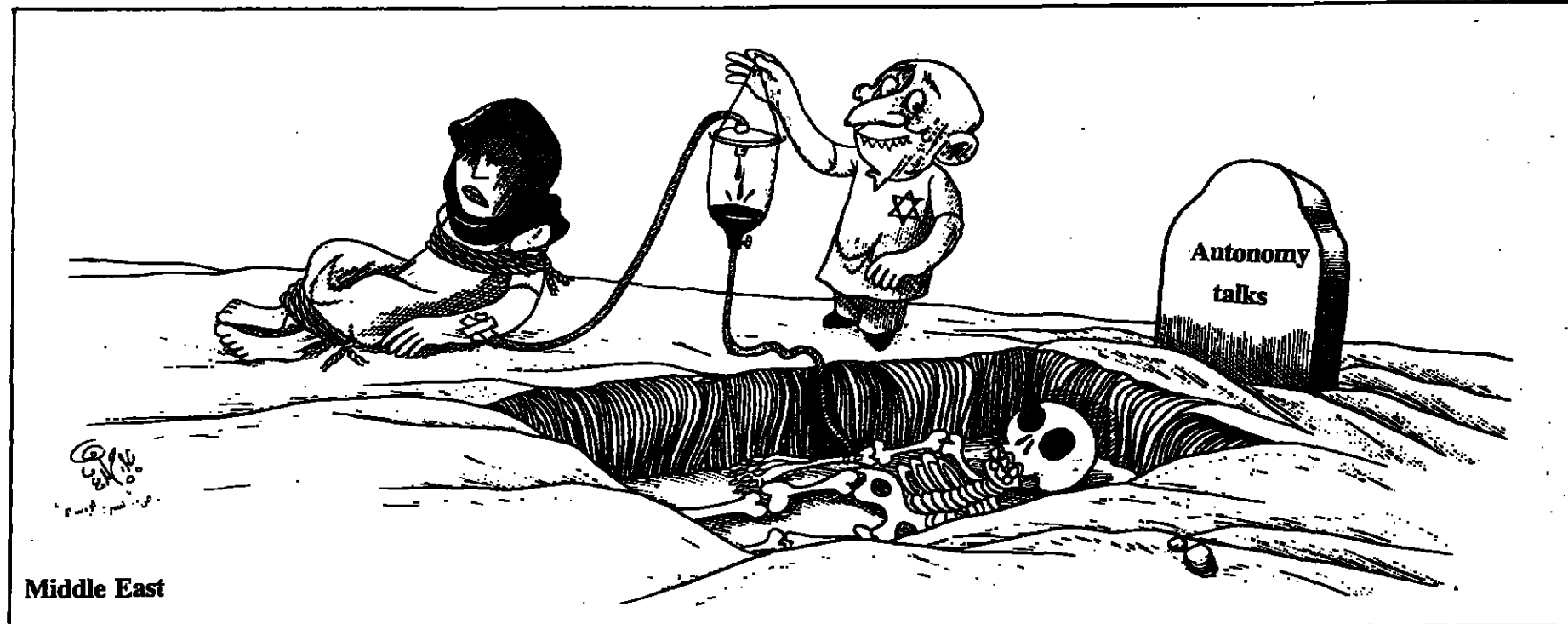
"We know that imperialist plans call for a confrontation between the two armies, in order to accuse our country of aggression," he said.

A war with Honduras would give the United States and Latin American forces an excuse to intervene in Nicaragua and topple the Sandinistas, government officials say.

The United States appears bent on proving publicly that Nicaragua is a base for Salvadoran guerrillas. But it was embarrassed last week when a Nicaraguan soldier captured in El Salvador changed his testimony at a press conference in Washington and said he had fought with the guerrillas out of conviction, not under orders. Government officials had been confident he would confess to Nicaraguan and Cuban involvement with the Salvadoran guerrillas. The soldier was given a hero's welcome when he was released and flew home to Nicaragua.

Apart from the Salvadoran question, the Reagan administration has accused Nicaragua of massacring indigenous Indians on the Atlantic coast, oppressing free speech, opposing political parties, and leading the country towards Cuban-style communism. "The charges, supported by some Nicaraguan opposition leaders," are denied by the government which maintains it believes in political pluralism and that elections will be held in a few years time. "But first the revolution must be consolidated," one Sandinista leader recently told Reuters. According to Mr. Ortega, the state of emergency has been introduced for the same reason.

The latest events are unlikely to enhance a Mexican peace plan for the region which calls for close dialogue and understanding between Washington and Managua, although the plan has been accepted by the United States as a possible starting point.



Middle East

Mexico has difficulty making peace

By George Gedda
 The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Mexico's 3-week-old peace initiative for the Caribbean basin has attracted the interest of Cuba, Nicaragua and now the United States — a reflection of the influence Mexico commands among the ideologically diverse parties to the gathering conflict in the region.

But, for Mexico, the hardest part lies ahead: Mexico's objective is to persuade the parties to end their drift toward political confrontation and begin instead a process of negotiations.

As Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. sees it, Mexico has an overriding national interest in promoting peace in the area lest the political turmoil spread to

Mexico itself. In a recent interview, Haig said the Central American crisis could become a "very fundamental threat" to Mexico in the "very predictable future."

Haig's comments provide one explanation why Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo decided late last month to offer his government's good offices to cool off the crisis.

The first Reagan administration reaction to the Mexican initiative was negative. But after meeting for the past two weekends with the Mexican foreign secretary in New York, Haig gave the Mexican plan a highly qualified endorsement. Haig made it clear he did not want to be perceived as an obstacle to peace in the region. Beyond that, he indicated he felt the initiative

might actually do some good. Nothing else the administration has tried seems to have worked.

But Haig emphasised Monday that Mexico will not have authority to negotiate on behalf of the United States. Its role will be to "facilitate contacts," he said.

In limiting Mexico's mandate, Haig appeared to reflect suspicion about the left-wing orientation of Mexico's foreign policy. At one point last year, in the midst of the Reagan administration's campaign to denounce Cuba's alleged meddling in El Salvador, Lopez Portillo called Cuba the Latin American country "most dear" to Mexico.

The Mexican President's peace initiative attempts to grapple with three separate but interrelated issues — the political crisis in El Salvador and the accelerating ten-

sions between the United States and both Nicaragua and Cuba.

Of the three, by far the most difficult to deal with is the U.S.-Cuban problem. In the view of Cuban President Fidel Castro, the United States "is to blame for all of the problems that affect Latin America and the Caribbean."

According to Assistant Secretary of State Thomas O. Enders, the crises in El Salvador and other countries are the product of Cuba's "deep-seated drive to recreate their own guerrilla experience elsewhere. Promoting arms struggle is not just a tactic of foreign policy it is what reassures them that they are still revolutionaries," Enders said last week.

Castro's own willingness to take part in the Mexican peace plan was, like Haig's, highly con-

ditioned but for different reasons.

Castro said Cuba would participate only if the United States "promises not to assault its neighbours, if it stops its continuous threats, if it stops using its arms and money to support genocidal regimes, if it stops subversive activities."

As for Nicaragua, Sandinista leader Daniel Ortega has endorsed proposals that his nation reduce its armed forces in return for a U.S. pledge not to attack Nicaragua and to stop giving military training to Nicaraguan exiles.

All of this adds up to a formidable diplomatic challenge. At this point, the only thing Lopez Portillo has going for him is that he has the ear of the hemisphere's two principal antagonists — Cuba and the United States.

Do not take human rights seriously

By John Chadwick
 Reuter

GENEVA — The United Nations commission on human rights has ended its stormiest-ever session here committed to go on probing complaints of repression and torture wherever they occur.

But with some member countries up in arms about being put under a public spotlight and the U.N.'s activist former human rights director now replaced, the future looks uncertain.

Angry East-West exchanges over martial law in Poland threatened to turn the six-week session into a cold-war shouting match and Bulgarian Chairman Ivan Garvalov suspended debate on one occasion.

Fighting off communist opposition, backed by some Third World countries, the West got the condemnation of Warsaw which it wanted. U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar was asked to set up an investigation — its first ever of an East European state.

U.S. Delegate Michael Novak called it "a great moment for the conscience of the United Nations. There is no corner of the world in which the human rights commission now fears to look."

But the Polish government denounced the action, passed by a majority of 19 votes to 13 with 10 abstentions, and said it would not cooperate in probing charges that it was arbitrarily detaining thousands of people after the December crackdown and violating their civil liberties and trade union rights.

Heated arguments over the Polish question and charges of murder and torture in Latin America and the Middle East turned the big

circular conference hall into a political cockpit where discussion degenerated at times into shrill abuse.

But in spite of protests of interference and double standards by countries involved, the 43-nation commission also condemned alleged political repression in Chile, El Salvador and Guatemala and mass executions in Iran.

It castigated Israeli measures in the occupied Arab territories and against Western opposition urged the abandonment of the Camp David peace talks under which Israel and Egypt made peace in 1979. It once again condemned South Africa's racial segregation system.

The big basic question underlying this year's session was: Has the U.N.'s principal human rights organ become too active? The question had been posed even before debate began. The human rights division's crusading Dutch Director, Theo Van Boven, made his own view clear in his annual report by not only protesting about mass executions and political abductions but naming the countries said to be involved. He told of mass executions in Iran and thousands of political murders in El Salvador and Guatemala. He complained that commission debates tended to be abstract and divorced from reality and told delegates they must act to end these "deliberate killings perpetrated by organised power."

This was too much for some Latin American circles, who said openly they were going to get Mr. Van Boven out. He was reported to have refused to water down his draft speech and later announced he was quitting over "policy differences" with New York head-

quarters.

The Dutch official was rebuked by the secretary-general for public statements "not wholly in keeping with his status as an international civil servant."

He is being replaced by 49-year-old Kurt Herndl, head of the Austrian Foreign Ministry's international legal department and a former U.N. delegate and official.

Mr. Herndl's style in the politically sensitive post remains to be seen.

Mr. Van Boven, in his five-year stint, transformed the job from a relatively bland operation, where it was almost bad form to mention specific cases, into a campaigning mission. His departure was openly welcomed by some. Argentina accused him of being malicious and theatrical.

Soviet Diplomat Valerian Zorin — later to accuse the U.S. of exterminating American Indians and Britain of repression in Northern Ireland, and to lead long filibustering tactics on the Polish resolution — said Mr. Van Boven had exceeded his mandate.

Western delegates praised the U.N. official's "idealism and integrity" and the international commission of jurists said he was brought down by those opposing a more active role.

Where does U.N. human rights policy go from here?

The latest session saw delegates deeply split over the basic issue of whether the commission should go on probing deeply into specific cases — a view supported by most Western and some non-aligned countries and dozens of non-governmental groups who place immense importance on the commission's work — or revert to the more general role of laying down

principles.

The communist states would prefer the latter. The communists and some Third-World states also say that other kinds of human rights, such as the right to peace, development and employment, should also be on the agenda.

Latin American governments feel their continent is unfairly highlighted by the human rights commission and would prefer it to maintain a lower profile.

Mr. Van Boven appealed for exactly the opposite before stepping down. In an unscheduled speech to the commission, he said the Bureau was undermanned and needed more funds. It must be able to respond quickly between annual sessions on gross human rights violations.

He also supported the est-

ablishment of a human rights commissioner like the one for refugees. The Soviet Bloc and the Latin Americans generally are opposed to this. In the end the commission took no immediate action on this but called for a study.

Former Commission Chairman Carlos Rodrigues of Brazil said they must be "realistic as well as idealistic... a high commissioner would probably find so many political difficulties in his way that he would be ineffective."

But delegates voted to keep Latin America very much on its agenda by extending the mandate of a special rapporteur on Chile and of a working group investigating political abductions, mainly in South American countries.

LETTERS

To the Editor

Have you ever bought stamps to send a letter in Jordan?

The normal postage in Jordan is 40 fils. There is no 40 fils stamp. The normal postage to the U.S.A. is 200 fils. There is no 200 fils stamp. There is a 125 fils stamp to send letters to Europe. This is obviously a fortunate accident! There are, however, 15, 20, 25, 50, 75 and 100 fils stamps which are not used except in mathematical combination.

Letters are bad enough, but have you ever mailed a package??

Usually there is not enough surface area on a normal package to apply the stamps! Has the Post Office never heard of stamp machines?

The solution to these problems is simple.

A Concerned Foreigner

Differences mark U.S.-Japan talks

WASHINGTON (R) — Differences over trade between the United States and Japan together with security issues appear certain to dominate talks starting Monday between senior U.S. officials and Japanese foreign minister Yoshio Sakuruchi.

U.S. officials said Mr. Sakuruchi, on his first foreign trip since his appointment in November, will meet Secretary of State Alexander Haig and probably President Reagan during the two days of talks.

He is also expected to see members of Congress concerned about trade problems between the two countries. The United States had a record trade deficit of \$13.4 billion with Japan last year.

U.S. officials said Mr. Sakuruchi's sessions with Reagan administration officials would deal in broad terms with bilateral relations, including the strategic relationship between the two countries.

Neither side expects firm proposals or decisions to emerge from the talks.

Japanese foreign ministry sources said the minister is unlikely to make any firm overtures on trade since Japan is still working out possible new measures.

They said Mr. Sakuruchi might propose that trade talks be held in Washington at sub-cabinet level in April or May to help ease the friction on the issue.

The United States has been pressing Japan to open its markets to more imports to help rectify the

trade imbalance and U.S. trade and economic officials will want to hear Japan's proposals on how this might be achieved.

Recently U.S. trade representative Bill Brock warned Japan that it did not have much time to show its trading partners it intended to open its doors to more foreign goods.

Japan has so far accelerated some 1,600 tariff cuts, removed or eased 67 non-tariff barriers and created a trade ombudsman's office.

Japanese foreign ministry officials in Tokyo said he was also expected to ask Washington to review its interest rate policy. The current high level of U.S. rates is causing concern in Japan and among other U.S. allies.

New state firms to take the lead in France

By Terry Dodsworth

PARIS — A new catch-word is humming round the French government think tanks and research departments where industrial policy is made. The word is "filier" and is meant to refer to vertical lines of production which stand -- or fall -- together.

The notion of "filieres" is important because it is fundamental to the massive restructuring of French industry which is planned as part of the government's nationalisation programme.

All the five big industrial groups entering the state sector dominate one or more of these chains of production. Each of them is also positioned in an area of big potential technological growth. The task they are being set by the government theorists is to develop their specific filieres and thus become the champions of France's accelerated thrust into new product areas.

Describing this policy recently, Mr. Pierre Dreyfus, the Industry Minister, made it abundantly clear that the new state sector chairman, while promised independence on a day-to-day management level, would have to act within the basic framework provided by the filiere concept.

The days of financial wheel-dealing, dedicated to short term profits, have been condemned to the industrial museum. Under the new Socialist order, state investment will be long term, designed to promote France's position in clearly defined areas which provide steady technological adv-

ance and therefore jobs and exports.

Four main integrated product areas have been chosen to carry the weight of this strategy after the reshuffling of interests between the different companies.

Chemicals: The government believes this sector should respond better to the intellectual skills of an advanced industrial country like France -- particularly at a time of increased research and investment spending. But the industry is in a disastrous position at present, split between seven different companies, widely dispersed geographically, and losing money heavily.

After a decade of piecemeal reorganisation, there are still no real competitors to the West German or U.S. giants and the sector leader, Rhone-Poulenc, is saddled with continuing problems in its synthetic fibres subsidiary.

From this hotchpotch of companies, some already nationalised (CDF-Chimie, Entreprenne/Miniere et Chimique and Elf Aquitaine's interests), the government aims to create three groups which will be "stronger, better integrated in terms of raw materials, and with more effective control over their markets."

Electronics: This filiere is regarded as the most decisive factor in maintaining the competitive strength of French industry, simply because electronic components lend themselves to such a variety of uses, from new industries such as information systems to traditional products such as watches and toys.

An improved performance in this field is an essential element in France's efforts to win back parts of the domestic market through better technology.

France has no shortage of nationalised companies in this broad

area, from Thomson to the CIT-Alcatel division of compagnie General d'Electricite (CGE), Matra and Cii Honeywell Bull, the computer group. But the government is faced with big problems in defining clear fields of interest, especially since this technology is often bewilderingly complex and fast moving.

According to Mr. Dreyfus, initial policy lines have been drawn up to "accelerate" the use of electronics in industry through action on several fronts. First, in components, where it appears that Thomson will be called on to act as a sort of leader; secondly, in the field of industrial electronics, with the development of flexible factories, computer assisted design and so on; thirdly, in computers, where Cii Honeywell Bull is the obvious champion and is likely to be hived off from Saint-Gobain; and finally, in consumer electronics, where Thomson is again the only significant French manufacturer.

Health: The government aims to extract more from the heavy spending on pharmaceuticals in France. Research expenditure will probably be stepped up to strengthen the pharmaceutical division of Rhone-Poulenc, newly nationalised, and Sanofi, a subsidiary of Elf Aquitaine, the already nationalised oil company. Earlier suggestions that Roussel-Uclaf, majority owned by Hoechst of West Germany, would be injected into one of the other groups have been discounted by a recent agreement which simply gives the state a blocking minority in Roussel shares.

There will also be a state funded scheme to promote the growth of bio-industries.

Materials: Saint-Gobain, Pechiney Ugine Kuhlmann and CGE all have strong activities in sectors

such as glass, aluminium, building materials, fibres and ceramics. The government believes that there is considerable scope for developing these products, particularly in the energy saving field.

Boiled down in this way, the filiere idea may not seem much different from the old fashioned French habit of massive restructuring, in which bigger was assumed to be better.

Yet the policy undoubtedly marks a change from the last government's approach. It is not so deliberately concentrated on choosing extremely limited international market niches to attack with French products. The new state companies will also be given larger resources than most of them have been generating in the last few years.

Although the overall financial requirements of the industrial companies will be based on plans to be drawn up in the next three months or so, the government has already indicated that it is setting aside about Ffr 10 billion (\$1.65 billion) over the next two years for capital requirements.

These will essentially involve Rhone-Poulenc, PUK and Thomson. Rhone-Poulenc is heavily over-borrowed at present, and is reckoned to have lost Ffr 2.3 billion over the last two years, while PUK lost Ffr 1.76 billion last year, and the financial community in Paris believes that Thomson has sunk into a dangerous financial position over the last 18 months. Of the five big new nationalised companies, only CGE and Saint-Gobain are reckoned to be in good financial shape. However, even Saint-Gobain has suffered a big drop in profits after taking on the loss-making Cii business.

The new funds are to be pumped into these companies in the form of capital subscriptions -- entirely advanced by the state -- on borrowings from the national or international markets. This strategy is to reduce short term profit anxieties and allow companies to plunge ambitiously into new projects -- a similar approach to that followed over the last few years in the nuclear power industry.

Mr. Dreyfus insists that the groups must then be managed in such a way as to realise sufficient profits to "ensure the development of the company," while investments should at the same time produce a normal return on capital.

— Financial Times news feature

Toolcarrier for higher yields



LONDON (LPS) — Higher yields from crops such as maize, sorghum and cowpea are among the advantages claimed for this new toolcarrier designed in Britain as a multi-purpose implement for ploughing, ridging, cultivating, inter-row weeding and transport.

Called the "GOM", it will accept separate tool attachments for different tasks which are easily changed onto the 40 mm square toolbar. A lever to lower and lift implements is situated by the operator's seat. The range of attachments includes

mouldboard ploughs, cultivator tines and ridgers and the range is being extended by the addition of seeders and a fertiliser unit.

Claimed to be considerably more efficient than traditional animal-power cultivators, the "GOM" was designed by the British National Institute of Agricultural Engineering (NIAE) in collaboration with the International Crops Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) in India. The project was funded by Britain's Overseas Development Administration.

Arbat launches Mideast headquarters

MANAMA (A.P.) — The international banking communications company Arbat opened its Middle East headquarters here Saturday.

The Bahrain base will be the centre of a network of offices throughout the oil-rich Gulf region, complete with base-branch computer links.

Arbat Chief Executive Jeff Harris said Bahrain has been picked up as headquarters for his banking communications system because "it is considered one of the world's major financial centres."

Bahrain is home for 55 offshore banking units, 19 commercial banks, six investment banks, and 28 bank representative offices. Arbat is a 10-year-old subsidiary of the London-based Latham Holdings group, which provides banking communications hardware, operating systems and application software.

"Arbat banking system has been developed to enable international transactions within the system to be automatically transferred," said Tony Honey, Arbat's director for the Middle East.

Output declines in five major industrial states

WASHINGTON (A.P.) — Industrial production declined in five of the United States' seven major Western trading partners during 1981 while U.S. output rose, according to the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Only the two non-European countries — Japan and Canada — among the seven major Western industrial countries registered production jumps last year, reporting gains of 2.9 per cent and 1.5 per cent respectively, the department said. This partially offset the production declines registered in the European nations.

French industrial output fell by 2.3 per cent during 1981 compared with 1980 and West Germany's output dropped 1.3 per cent. Industrial production in both Italy and the Netherlands declined by 3 per cent in 1981. The United Kingdom reported a decline of 3.9 per cent. The Commerce Department said industrial production in the United States increased by 2.6 per cent in 1981, despite a sharp decline during the fourth quarter. American production in the final quarter of last year was 4.4 per cent below the third quarter in 1981 and 1.7 per cent

below 1980's fourth quarter.

Preliminary figures for 1982 indicate that U.S. industrial production fell by 3 per cent in January marking the sixth straight month that it has declined since July 1981.

"Most of the economies of the major industrialised powers have continued to feel the effects of the 1979-1980 increase in petroleum prices imposed by the oil-exporting countries," the agency said in the special report.

"To cope with problems of inflation, most of the major ind-

ustrialised countries imposed restrictive monetary and fiscal policies throughout the year. While this action helped slow inflation, the rate of real gross national product (GNP) growth was also held down, while unemployment increased to near record levels in some countries.

The Commerce Department's foreign production index covers 80 per cent of the industrial output of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) outside the United States.

JORDAN TELEVISION

21:00 News Summary
22:00 News Headlines

CHANNEL 3

5:30 Koran
5:50 Laurel and Hardy
6:00 Children's Programme
6:25 Children's Programme
7:15 Local Programme
7:25 Local Programme
8:00 News in Arabic
8:30 Arabic Series
9:40 Panorama
10:20 Arabic Play
11:10 News in Arabic

CHANNEL 6

6:00 French Programme
7:00 News in French
7:30 News in Hebrew
7:45 Environmental Protection
8:00 News in Arabic
8:30 Comedy: House Calls
9:10 Hart to Hart
10:00 News in English
10:15 Brideshead Revisited
11:00 News in Arabic

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz AM & 99 MHz FM

7:00 Sign on
7:01 Morning Show
7:30 News Bulletin
7:40 Morning Show
10:00 News Headlines
10:03 Morning Show
10:30 30 minute Theatre
11:00 Sign off
12:00 News Headlines
12:03 Pop Session
12:30 News Summary
13:03 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumentals
14:30 The Elton John Story
15:00 Concert Hour
15:03 News Summary
16:03 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 French way of Life
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:03 Sports Round-up
18:30 North by Sea
19:00 News Desk
19:30 Instrumentals
20:30 Evening Show

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

GMT
04:00 Newsdesk 04:30 News of the Engagement 04:45 Notes from an Observer 04:50 Paperback Choice 04:55 Reflections 05:00 World News: 24 Hours; News Summary 05:30 Peaches: Choice 05:45 A Pattern of Faith 06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 Musician at Large 07:00 World News: 24 Hours; News Summary 07:30 Country Style 07:45 Short Story 08:00 World News; Reflections 08:15 The London Bach 08:30 Musical Memories 09:00 World News; British Press Review 09:15 Notes from an Observer 09:20 Goods Books 09:35 Interlude 09:40 Look Ahead 09:45 A Word in Edgeways 10:15 The Instrument Makers 10:30 Smash of the Day: The Navy Lark 11:00 World News; News about Britain 11:15 Backtracking 11:30 The Reith Lectures 12:00 Radio Newsreel 12:15 Animal, Vegetable or Mineral? 12:45 Sports Round-up 13:00 World News; 24 Hours News Summary 13:30 Country Style 13:45 Goethe 14:15 News of the Engagement 14:30 Rock Salad 15:00 Radio Newsreel 15:15 Outlook 16:00 World News; Commentary 16:15 A Man of Pleasure 16:45 The World Today 17:00 World News 17:09 Europa 17:25 New Ideas 17:35 Paperback Choice 17:40 Interlude 17:45 Sports Round-up 18:00 World News; News about Britain 18:15 Radio Newsreel 18:30 Rhythm 'n' Roots 19:00 Outlook: News Summary 19:30 Stock Market Report 19:45 Look Ahead 19:45 Paperback Choice 20:00 World News; 24 Hours News Summary 20:30 Sports International 21:00 Network U.K. 21:15 Europa 21:30 Rock Salad 22:00 World News 22:09 The World Today 22:25 Book Choice 22:30 Financial News 22:40 Reflections 22:45 Sports Round-up 23:00 World News; Commentary 23:15 Classical Record Review 23:30 Animal, Vegetable or Mineral?

VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT

03:00 Daybreak 04:00 The Breakfast Show 15:00 News Roundup: Reports, Actualities, News Summary 15:30 VOA Magazine Show: Americana, Science, Listeners' letters 16:00 Special English News 16:10 Special English Science and Technology Report 16:15 Feature: This is America 16:30 Music USA: Standards 17:00 News Roundup 17:30 Dateline 18:00 Special English News 18:10 Science and Technology 18:15 This is America 18:30 Music USA: Standards 19:00 News Roundup 19:30 VOA Magazine Show 20:00 Special English News 20:10 Science and Technology 20:15 Music USA: Jazz 21:00 VOA World Report: News, Newsmakers' Voices, Correspondents' Reports, Analyses

AMMAN AIRPORT

NOTE: The following airport arrivals and departures are provided to the Jordan Times by the Air Information department at Amman Airport, Tel. 92205-6. They should always be verified by phone before the arrival or departure of the flight.

ARRIVALS

8:00 Cairo (EA)
8:55 Agaba
9:00 Cairo
9:00 Damascus
9:30 Jeddah
9:40 Dhahran
9:45 Kuwait
9:50 Muscat, Dubai
10:00 Doha, Bahrain
10:10 Beirut, Larnaca
10:15 Abu Dhabi
10:55 Kuwait (SR)
14:00 Tripoli (LA)
14:25 Moscow (SU)
15:30 Kuwait (KAC)
15:35 Jeddah, Medina (SV)
16:25 Beirut
16:45 Bangkok
17:00 Athens
17:00 Cairo
18:05 Amsterdam, Beirut (KLM)
18:05 London (BA)
18:30 Paris (AF)
20:30 Cairo (EA)
20:30 Beirut (MEA)

DEPARTURES:

03:00 Cairo
06:15 Frankfurt (LH)
06:30 Damascus
07:00 Agaba
09:00 Cairo (EA)
09:00 Beirut (MEA)
11:00 Amsterdam, New York
11:15 Athens
11:30 Cairo
11:45 Geneva, Zurich (SR)
11:45 Tunis, Madrid
12:00 Paris, London
13:00 Beirut
15:10 Tripoli
15:30 Moscow (SU)
16:30 Kuwait (KAC)
16:35 Medina, Jeddah (SV)
19:15 Dhahran
19:30 Jeddah
19:30 Cairo
20:15 Baghdad
20:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai
21:30 Cairo (EA)
22:00 Baghdad
01:15 Cairo (EA)

EMERGENCIES

DOCTORS:

Amman:
Mohammad Al Suqi 76721
Hisham Abu Argoub 93122
Zargha
Hisham Hyasat 82440
Yahya Al Tarif 81520/82684
Irbid:
Omar Swelin 3240/2928
PHARMACIES:
Amman:
23672
Abu Ghazaleh 25290
Al Dawliah 62225
Falastrin 25216
Al Hawamdeh (—)
TAXIS:
Al Khayyam 41541
Al Ahran 63911
Al Nahda 63006
Bashar 71329
Zeid 64476

CULTURAL CENTRES

American Centre 41520
British Council 36147-8
French Cultural Centre 37009
Goethe Institute 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre 24049
Turkish Cultural Centre 39777
Haya Arts Centre 65195
Al Hussein Youth City 67181
Y.W.C.A. 41793
Y.W.M.C.A. 64251
Amman Municipal Library 36111
University of Jordan Library 84355/84366

PRAYER TIMES

Fajr 4:14
Sunrise 5:37
Dhuhr 11:44
Asr 3:12
Maghreb 5:49
Isha 7:13

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Grand Palace Hotel, 1:30 p.m.
Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.

MUSEUMS

Military Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday to Friday. Closed on Saturdays. Tel. 64240.
Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Year-round. Tel. 51760.
Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as

costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed on Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century oriental artists. Muntazah, Jabal Luweibdeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Tuesdays. Tel. 30128

Ambulance (government) 75111
Civil Defence rescue 61111
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency) 36381-2
Municipal water service (emergency) 71125-6-7-8
Police headquarters 39141
Najideh roving patrol rescue police, (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency 21111, 37777
Airport information (ALIA) 92205/92206
Jordan Television 73111
Radio Jordan 74111

Tomatoes 120
Eggplant (small) 80
Potatoes (imported) 200
Marrow (small) 170
Marrow (large) 130
Cucumber (small) 360
Cucumber (large) 250
Hot Green Pepper 880
Sweet Pepper 660
Cabbage 100
Onions (dry) 100
Green onions 150
Spinach 100
Coconut (piece) 330
Beans 600
Bananas 260
Bananas (Mukammal) 225
Peas 440
Garlic 600

CHURCHES

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luweibdeh 37440
St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman 24590
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein 66428
Amman International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shm-eisani 63249

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

Saudi riyal 101.7/102
Lebanese pound 71.1/71.7
Syrian pound 58.2/58.4
Iraqi dinar 665/671.8
Kuwaiti dinar 1220.3/1224.6
Egyptian pound 344.3/347
Qatari riyal 94.6/95
UAE dirham 94.6/95
Omani riyal 1002/1004
U.S. dollar 347.5/349.5
U.K. sterling 626.5/630.3
W. German mark 146.1/147
Swiss franc 183.6/184.7
French franc 56/56.3
Italian lire 26.5/26.7
Japanese yen 142.1/143
Dutch guilder 132.6/133.4
Belgian franc 77.6/78.1
Swedish crown 59/59.4

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Firstaid, fire, police 199
Fire headquarters 22900
Cablegram or telegram 18

Telephone:
Information 12
Jordan and Middle East trunk calls 10
Overseas radio and satellite calls 17
Telephone maintenance and repair service 11

MARKET PRICES

Green Almonds 250
Potatoes (local) 170
Broad Beans 160
Apples (Golden) 200
Apples (Double Red) 200
Apples (Starken) 200
Lemons 150
Oranges (Shamouti) 170
Oranges (Valencia) 120
Cauliflowers (white) 140
Carrot 150
Turnips 130
Beet 110
Lettuce (a head) 70
Radish 150
Sage 250
Chard 150
Farsley 50

SPORTS

Piquet wins
Brazilian
Grand Prix

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (A.P.) — Defending world champion Nelson Piquet of Brazil, driving a Brabham, came from behind Sunday and won the Brazilian Grand Prix Formula-1 auto race.

Keke Rosberg of Finland, in a Williams, was second, followed by pole position starter Alain Prost of France, driving a Renault.

Englishman John Watson of the McLaren team was fourth, with fellow countryman Nigel Mansell, in a Lotus, fifth. Italy's Michele Alboreto, driving a Tyrrell, was sixth.

Avelar goes down in round 1

TAMPICO, Mexico (R) — Prudencio Cardona of Colombia knocked out Mexico's Antonio Avelar in the first round Sunday night to win the World Boxing Council (WBC) flyweight title.

Cardona, 30, caught Avelar with a hard punch to the left eye early in the round, sending him reeling into the ropes, and maintained a fast, aggressive assault.

Avelar tried to recover from the initial blow but was constantly hit with hard left and rights by a

longer-reaching, harder-hitting opponent.

With seconds to go before the end of the round, Cardona pinned Avelar to the ropes with a series of blows to the head and body and then knocked him unconscious with a powerful right hand.

Avelar, 23, was making his second defence of the title which he won in April by beating Shoji Oguma in Japan. He weighed 110.5 pounds and Cardona 110.4 pounds.

Maradona's transfer deal denied

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentine soccer club Boca Juniors Sunday denied a British Sunday newspaper report that Diego Maradona, one of the game's most gifted players, is to join English first division side Arsenal for four million sterling (\$7,300,000).

The News of the World said in

its leading front-page story that Arsenal had made an offer for the Argentine international after weeks of secret negotiations and Boca had accepted the cash deal subject to contract.

But Boca secretary Pablo Abbatangelo told Reuters that no such negotiations had taken place.

"Absolutely not. We are not selling Maradona to anyone and we haven't even talked about selling him," he said.

Maradona, 21, is expected to be one of the major attractions at the World Cup finals in Spain this summer.

Taiwan women set out
to climb Himalayan peak

KATMANDU, Nepal (A.P.) — Eight women mountaineers from Taiwan left the Pokhara Valley, about 200 kilometres west of here, on a six-day trek Sunday to set up a base camp and begin their ascent of the 5,663-metre Tent Peak, according to a radio message received here.

Lin Fang-Jinn, of Taipei, is the leader of the first women's group from Taiwan to attempt to scale a Himalayan peak.

Tent Peak in northwestern

Nepal, is in the middle of the massive Annapurna Range.

After the group set up a camp, they will start their final climb in a bid to reach the top of the Tent Peak by March 29.

The Taiwan Alpinists were accompanied by a three-man Sherpa guide team led by Ang Pashang, 24.

"I think the women can climb the mountain if the weather's favourable," Pashang said.

Ethiopian wins IAAF cross country

ROME (A.P.) — Mohammed Kadir of Ethiopia won the men's event in the 10th IAAF world cross championship clocking a stunning 33 minutes 40 seconds.

Alberto Salazar of the United States was next past the finish post at the Campamelle Hippodrome in 33:44. Rod Dixon of New Zealand ran hard to finish third in 34:01.

Romanian Marica Puica sped to victory in the women's category. Puica latched onto an early break led by Norwegian Grete Waitz, champion for the last four years, and spurred clear on the final bend.

Romanian Fita Lovin overtook a flagging Waitz for second place.

Italian Agnese Possamai was fourth, after failing in a late bid to overtake the reigning champion.

Deutsche Welle has 11
nationalities in soccer team

COLOGNE (Dad) — The cathedral city is the home of what is claimed to be the most cosmopolitan soccer team in the world, the side fielded by Deutsche Welle, the Voice of Germany, which often boasts 11 nationalities. Europe, Asia and South America are almost always represented when the team plays.

Deutsche Welle is a short-wave radio station that broadcasts in 34 languages. It fields a soccer team of programme staff, announcers and technicians with either the Voice of Germany or Transel, a TV subsidiary. In February the team played fixtures in Taiwan and Hong Kong.

It makes one long journey a year and has toured Tunisia, Britain, Thailand, Rwanda, Kenya and Malta. In Kenya its games were networked live on radio and TV. The next tour will be to Lisbon, where the team will play against teams fielded by Portuguese radio and TV.

Regular players include nationals of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, China, Britain, India, Kenya, Pakistan, Tanzania, Tunisia and Zaïre—and Germany itself, of course. An 11-nationality team played against the Bonn Bundestag soccer team and won.

The team normally plays against Cologne works teams and stages charity games. Sweeper Toby Charles, a Welshman, provides an English commentary on a Bundesliga soccer game once a week; it is screened in over 40 countries.

Peter Adam, a former German 800 metres champion, is another mainstay of the team.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN

©1981 by Chicago Tribune

Neither vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH

♦ 2

♥ K 7 5

♦ A J 7 6 4

♠ A J 7 4

WEST

♦ A K Q J 8 7 6

♥ J 10

♦ 10 2

♠ 10 9

EAST

♦ 10 9 8 3

♥ A 9 8 6 4

♦ 8 3

♠ 8 5 2

SOUTH

♦ 5 4

♥ Q 3 2

♦ K Q 9 5

♠ K Q 6 3

The bidding:

West North East South

1 ♦ Dble Pass 2 ♦

3 ♦ Pass Pass 4 ♦

Pass 5 ♦ Pass Pass

Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠.

tage of the situation to play his ten—a suit preference signal for a heart shift. West duly switched to the jack of hearts, which ran to declarer's queen.

It seemed that declarer would have to lose two heart tricks in addition to the spade, but he worked out a distribution that would allow him to make the contract with a strip and end play.

First, it required West to have started with specifically J-10 of hearts bare. It seemed from the bidding that West held seven spades—with four spades and an ace East would have raised over the double; with eight spades, West probably would have rebid four spades. That left him with four minor-suit cards. If declarer could guess how those were distributed, he was home.

South cashed the king and queen of diamonds, and was delighted when both defenders followed. Next came a spade ruff and the king and queen of clubs, to remove all of West's exit cards. Then declarer led a heart and played low from dummy when West produced the ten. West was now forced to give declarer a ruff-and-shuff, which allowed him to make the contract.

Observe that it would be fatal for declarer to play a third club before trying to end play West. West would discard his ten of hearts on the third club, and declarer would not be able to execute his end play and would end up down one.

This excellent piece of card-reading is reported by Pierre Schemiel in the French magazine, Le Bridgeur.

West might have been better off had he taken advantage of the vulnerability to preempt with four spades. As it was, North-South were able to get into the auction at a low level. Unfortunately, they ended up in their 5-4 fit rather than the 4-4 fit—five clubs would have been on ice with a 3-2 trump break.

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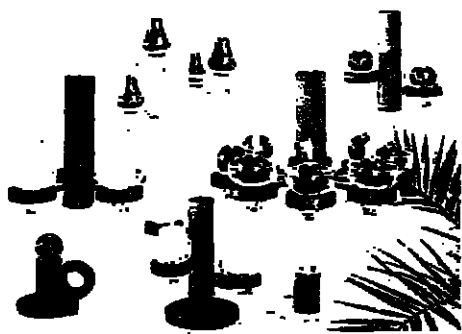
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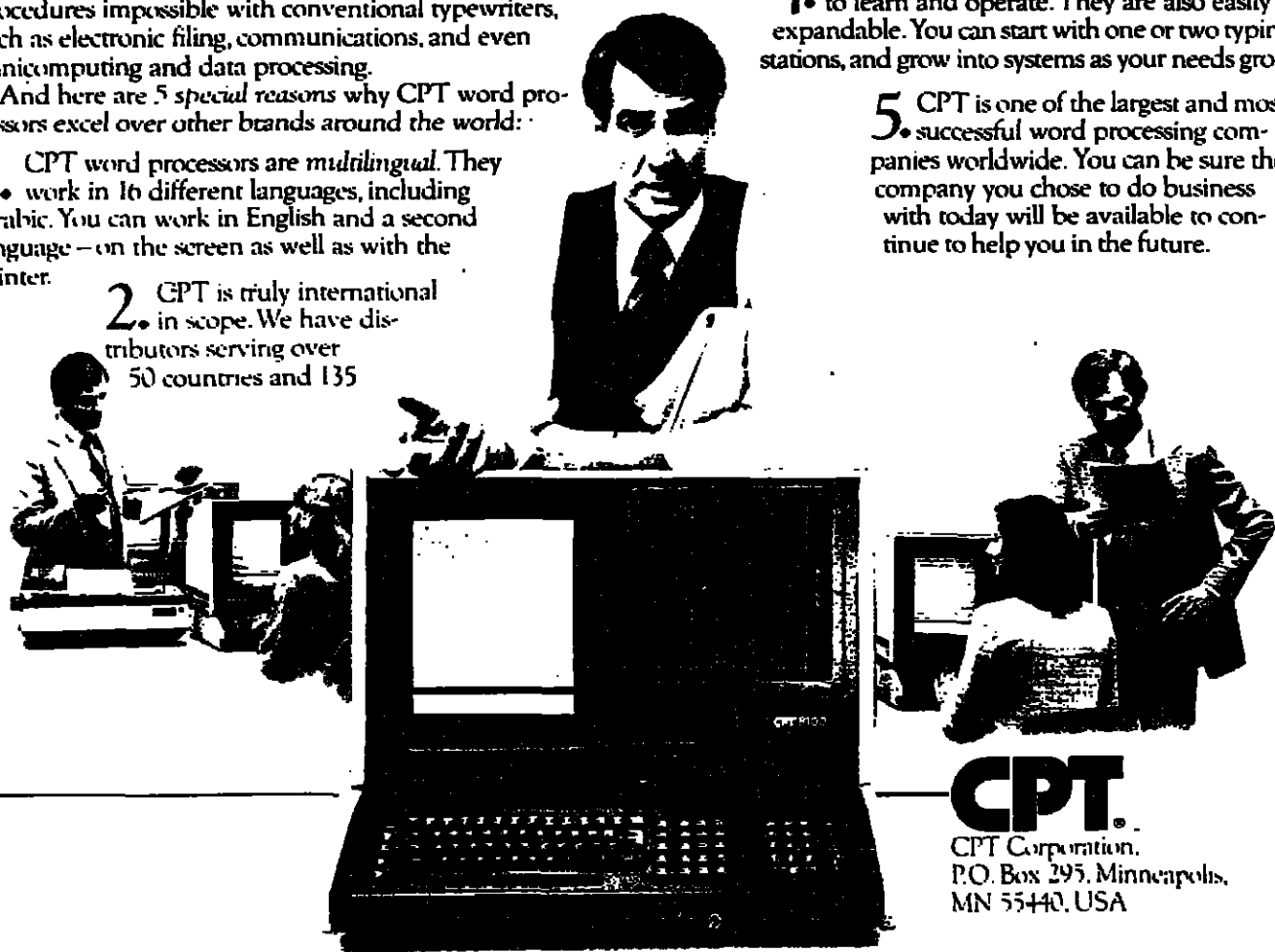
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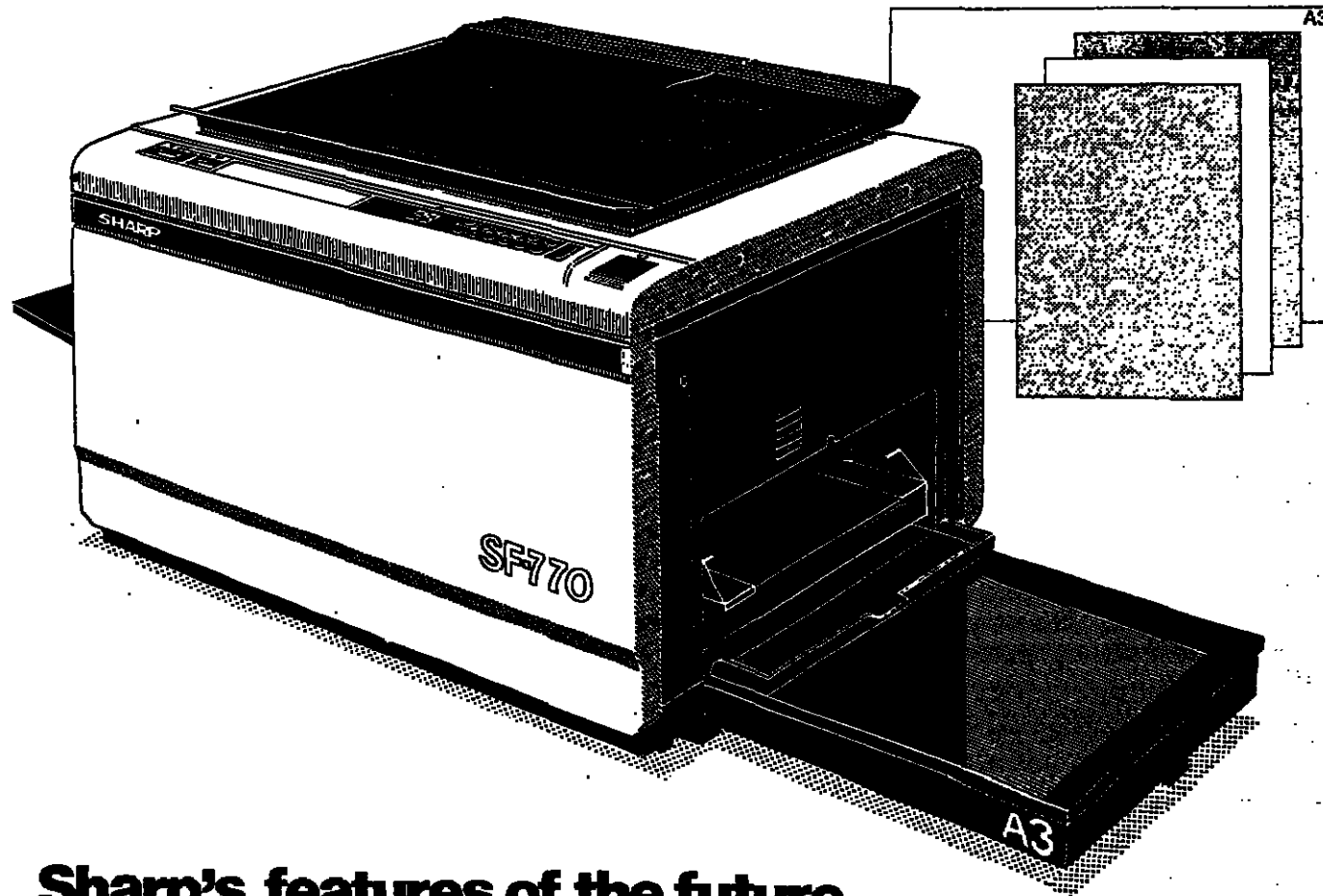
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Aiming to build a spectacle-free society

Soviet surgeon conducts successful eye operations

By Mark Wood
Reuter

MOSCOW — A Soviet surgeon is building up a major treatment centre in Moscow using a controversial operation to cure short-sightedness with the aid of a scalpel.

In a half-finished 19-storey clinic on the outskirts of the city, Dr. Vyacheslav Fyodorov is already carrying out more than 2,000 of his "radical keratotomy" operations a year and says he hopes to treble the number within a few years.

Dr. Fyodorov's method, which he first tested in 1973, consists of carving 16 radial slits into the cornea so as to change the curvature of the front of the eyeball.

He explained to journalists that the 10-minute operation, carried out under local anaesthetic, allowed the lens to flatten out under pressure from inside the eye and thus corrected the distortions which are the cause of myopia.

Several U.S. surgeons have already been to Moscow to learn the technique from the Soviet master and are treating patients at over \$1,000 a time, while British eye specialists are trying it out at a London clinic.

Dr. Fyodorov shrugs off the criticism in the West and says the success rate of his operation speaks for itself.

In more than 90 per cent of the cases a radical improvement in the patient's sight was achieved and there had never been any serious injuries, he said.

He also presented former patients who swear by the therapy, including a Soviet pilot who said he had lost his job after failing an eye test but was now flying again.

Dr. Fyodorov now has a team of doctors carrying out the operation, among them a man who served as his first guinea-pig, and says he is convinced his method will spread round the world and one day turn spectacles into museum pieces.

But the mural in his clinic which shows a queue of patients entering one door and throwing away their glasses as they leave the other is not entirely accurate.

According to his own statistics, only those with mild myopia can expect to gain perfect sight after one operation.

Although all patients experience an immediate sharp improvement, this can be reduced by as much as half during the first three months as the eye heals.

Reports put out by the Moscow eye hospital Dr. Fyodorov heads show that about 45 per cent of the patients obtain perfect vision, while many of the others still have to wear spectacles at least some of the time.

He argues that people who still

have weak sight can return for further operations until this is cured completely.

But both U.S. and British doctors have cautioned strongly against that idea, voicing fears that the scars in the cornea may never heal completely and that those resulting from even one operation might cause problems later in life.

The idea of cornea slicing to cure myopia was first put forward by a Japanese surgeon in the 1950's but abandoned after his tests produced disappointing results.

Dr. Fyodorov took the idea much further by developing a method of cutting much closer to the pupil and much deeper into the eye than ophthalmologists had ever thought possible without risking punctures which can lead to blindness.

The surgical technique is based on computer equipment which measures the depth of the cornea and allows the surgeon to adjust a special diamond scalpel to cut down to nine-tenths of its depth.

But though Dr. Fyodorov presents his idea of a spectacle-free society with considerable enthusiasm, his treatment of even 6,000 people a year will be something of a drop in the ocean in the Soviet Union.

There are more than 80 million people suffering from short sight in the entire country and a chronic shortage of spectacles means that many of those would be delighted to be able to obtain the aids he is so keen to do away with.

There is also no sign that the Soviet medical establishment, which has always shown some suspicion of the flamboyant surgeon, is ready to follow his lead and set up further clinics.

But medics both at home and abroad have far fewer reservations about the second major field of work at his clinic, the implantation of artificial lenses for

people who have suffered from cataracts or serious eye injuries.

Working on an idea first dreamed up by an English researcher after World War II, Dr. Fyodorov developed a light-weight plastic lens in the mid-1960's which is fastened to the iris by fine wire hooks.

The invention has been a boon to victims of cataracts, a thick clouding of the eye lenses, who are often left with very weak or impaired sight after conventional surgery.

The surgeon's team has already

provided thousands of people with the tiny lenses, and it was this invention which gained him worldwide fame among eye specialists.

The hospital has its own small factory nearby where a team of women assembles the lenses by hand, many of them due for shipment around the globe.

Dr. Fyodorov hopes to move that factory into a major workshop at his new hospital producing a broad range of optical equipment both for his own needs and for export.

There is little reason to doubt that he will gain official backing for this idea and for his plans for a towering hotel next to the hospital to house visiting foreign specialists.

He has already been granted millions of dollars worth of advanced Western technology for his clinic, making it easily the best equipped in the country.

Even if the conservative medical establishment may look askance at the ambitious professor, it is clear that the Soviet authorities have decided to turn his work into a showcase for Soviet medicine.

Guns of Catherine the Great seized in drug raid

NEW YORK (A.P.) — The ivory-inlaid, gold-encrusted hunting pistols that once belonged to Catherine the Great had lain for a decade in a police warehouse, two museum pieces lost amid the common tools of crime.

The ornate 18th century guns, valued at \$200,000, were seized in a drug raid and may have "knocked around the streets" in New York for years, said Sgt. Thomas McCabe, the intelligence division officer assigned to the case.

The pistols were supposed to be melted down along with hundreds of "Saturday night specials" and other illegal handguns when police set them aside, thinking them odd antiques.

The officers were right. Experts at the Metropolitan Museum of Art said the pistols were made and signed by Johan Adolph Gracke, gunmaker to the court of the empress of Russia.

Research associate Leonid Tarassuk, who specialises in Russian arms, noted that the guns have the initial "E" — for "Ekaterina" — inlaid in gold.

"Their quality is so very high, I am almost certain they would have been used by the empress herself," he said. "They are true works of art and there is no doubt as to their authenticity."

Now that the guns have been identified, police face a new problem: Finding the owner.

The pistols will be loaned to the museum, with the hope that once they go on display, "the real owner may come by and see them," said Rosemary Carroll, the police department's assistant commissioner for civil matters.

"Obviously they didn't belong to the heroin seller we busted," Sgt. McCabe told the New York Times in an interview published Thursday. "We think one of the owners sold them off and the new owner was burglarised, and then the guns kind of knocked around on the streets."

The previous owner may have been the late Shah of Iran, police said. When they showed a photograph of the firearms to his sister, she said they looked like a pair once in his extensive gun collection. She wasn't sure, however.

Another possible previous owner is Gustav Diderrich, once the head chef to the wealthy Widener family of Pennsylvania.

The pistols were exhibited as part of Mr. Diderrich's collection at a Brooklyn museum in 1933, police learned through contacts

with museums and gun collectors. In a hunt for Diderrich, they tracked down J.A.B. Widener III in Arizona.

"He said that Mr. Diderrich was once his father's cook and that he did have a very fine gun collection," Sgt. McCabe said.

But police also learned that Mr. Diderrich is believed to have begun selling his collection in the 1940s, when they Widener family closed its Pennsylvania estate.

Some of Diderrich's collection reportedly was sold to Abercrombie & Fitch, the now-defunct sporting goods store from which the Shah and other wealthy collectors and sportsmen would purchase guns.

As for Mr. Diderrich himself, the police have just about given up hunting for him.

"If he's alive today," said Sgt. McCabe, "he would probably be 90 to 100 years old."

HOROSCOPE

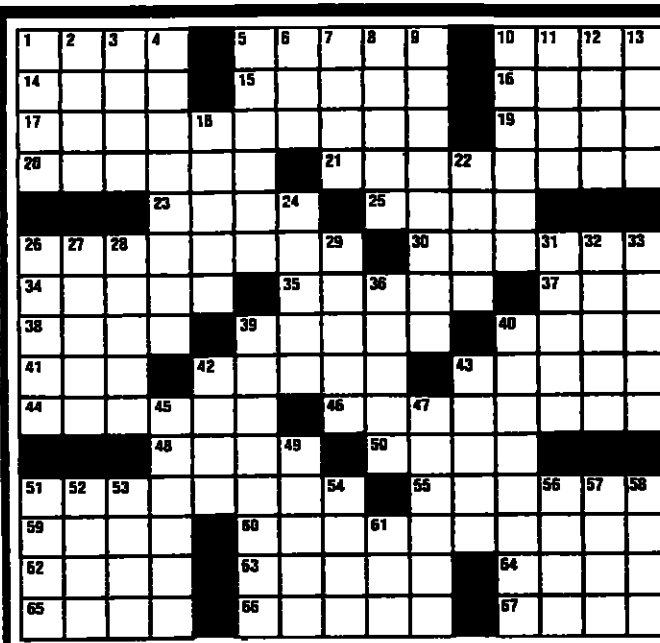
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THE Daily Crossword by Ruth N. Schultz

ACROSS	25 Within	50 Sly maneuver	18 Adolescents
1 "— a league onward!"	26 Enraged	51 Fishing in —	22 Road sign
5 Witch town	30 Certain	52 waters	24 Dividing membranes
10 Nobelist	34 sculptures	55 Break a promise	26 "— kick out of you"
14 Cupid	35 Kind of toaster	59 Group of cattle	27 Bumps
15 Serkin's instrument	37 Rule	60 Fifty-fifty	28 Metal money
16 Concern	38 Work on copy	62 Feed the kitty	29 Entrances
17 Authorized delay	39 Atmospheric disturbance	63 Sublease	31 List of candidates
19 Hawaiian goose	40 Appraise	64 Chinese: pref.	32 Affirmations
20 Canary, for one	41 Knockout count	65 Hurl	33 "— Adeline"
21 Turkish flag emblem	42 Sweetie	66 Cuts off	36 Comedian
23 New York team	43 Take a swim	67 Large number	38 Richard
	44 Decade		39 Pioneers
	46 Most staid		40 Unique quality
	48 Makes lace		42 Ugly
		DOWN	43 Harass
		1 Cutups	45 Chopin pieces
		2 Mine, in Caen	47 Breaks open
		3 Forsaken	48 — Deadly
		4 Small piece	49 Sins
		5 Baseball and tennis	51 Pronoun
		6 Express town	52 Gambling
		7 Not of the clergy	53 Morsels
		8 Harden	54 Cold cuts store
		9 Impetus	56 Maleficent
		10 Animosity	57 Heredity factor
		11 Suite to —	58 Sufficient, to poets
		12 European capital	61 Cotton fiber knot
		13 "— a man with..."	

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

SHAW POISE STOP
MIMO ORTIE HIRE
IMPROBABLE AREA
MISDEALS MODEST
LLBS DEWY
ABSAIT WINE GAD
TRENCE AIT BIMO
ROADS LIT AIDION
AIDS HUN GROUSE
SIV POSE GRATES
HASH BRAD
DESERT PRINCESS
NICA EERITALEA
STAR SLOES SEALS
GORD SMABIT TALS

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CHINESE TRADE GROUP (F.E.T.S.) VISITING JORDAN

This trade group, representing the Far East Trade Service Inc., Taiwan, ROC, is arriving in Amman, on Monday, March 22 for a six-day visit with the object of meeting Jordanian merchants and importers to promote trade relations between Taiwan, ROC, and Jordan. They will stay at Philadelphia Hotel, Amman. Products they deal with include:

Car spare parts; sanitary ware & fittings; toys; wooden doors; electronic items; hardware; locks; tools; ready-made garments; intercom systems; telephone sets; jewelry; footwear; bags, sewing machines; building materials; semi-precious stones, coral shells; construction equipment; engines and accessories; gas gauges; decorative electric fixtures.

There will be attractive opportunities to close important deals and profitable contracts. For appointments please call either telephone 41530 in the morning, or 25191 any time. Some samples can be shown upon request.

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

CARTT

HOOPT

TYMINE

BRUBUS

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: ON THE

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: KNEEL LAUGH IMBIBE JOCKEY

Answer: They called him a colorful fighter because he was this most of the time—BLACK & BLUE

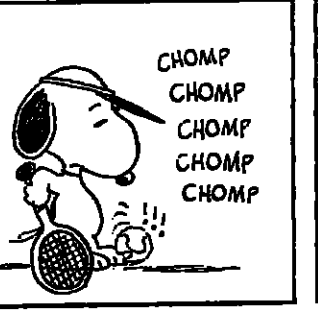
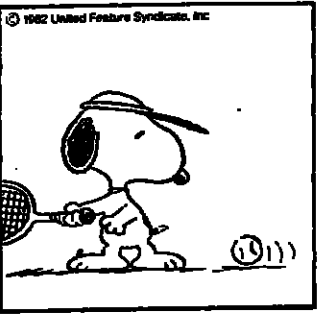
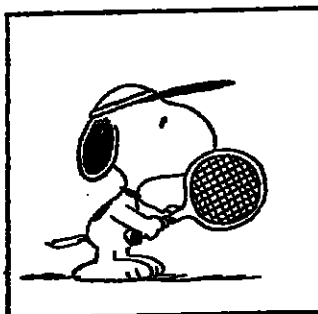


THE BETTER HALF. By Vinson

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Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



WORLD

Kabul stages counter protests • Carrington vows to step up diplomatic pressure on Moscow

West marks Afghan day

LONDON (R) — The Western world renewed its harsh criticism of the Soviet presence in Afghanistan Sunday but British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington admitted that diplomatic pressure had so far done little for the Afghan people.

In a series of statements to mark the start of the Afghan New Year, designated Afghanistan day by President Reagan and the European Parliament, Western leaders renewed calls for a negotiated settlement and the withdrawal of the Soviet troops which moved into Afghanistan in December 1979.

In Afghanistan, meanwhile, Radio Kabul said 200,000 people marched through the capital to condemn the Western protest. The Soviet news agency TASS,

in a commentary apparently timed to coincide with the day of protest, blamed the United States and Pakistan for the continuing East-West tension over Afghanistan.

Soviet troops would stay in the country until the Kabul government was secure, it said. In a radio interview in London, Lord Carrington said almost the entire world was now united against the Soviet Union over Afghanistan.

"Alas, it hasn't done very much for the people of Afghanistan because a sixth of the population is now outside Afghanistan—they find life there insupportable."

But short of going to war there was nothing the West could do except keep up the diplomatic pressure "and this is what we're doing," he said.

Lord Carrington's words were echoed in Pakistan where 2.6 million Afghan refugees now live. One major group of Afghan rebels said in a telegram to President Reagan that "mere condemnation of the naked aggression of Soviet Russia is not an adequate answer."

The rebel groups held a number of rallies to mark the day, mainly in Peshawar, the capital of the North West Frontier Province adjoining Afghanistan.

About 500 refugees also demonstrated noisily outside the Soviet embassy in New Delhi and further demonstrations were planned in the United States where President Reagan announced Saturday that he was stepping up the U.S. propaganda war against the Soviet presence.

An official statement from Belgium on behalf of the 10 European Economic Community (EEC) countries said: "It is important to set in motion a political solution to the Afghan crisis without delay."

West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher warned the Soviet Union against believing that the international public would forget what was happening in Afghanistan.

Britain announced extra aid for the refugees. The government said it would give the refugees in Pakistan £1 million (\$1.8 million) in response to an appeal from the Pakistan government.

Gandhi leaves for London

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi left Sunday on a six-day official visit to Britain during which she will confer with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

In an interview published by Indian newspapers Sunday, Mrs. Gandhi said she hoped her visit would help to create a better relationship between the two countries.

Thousands flock to attend baby Walesa's Christening

WARSAW (R) — The baby daughter of Poland's Solidarity leader Lech Walesa was baptised by the bishop of Gdansk Sunday as her father remained interned in isolation near Warsaw.

Church officials said Mr. Walesa was not present in Gdansk when his two-month-old daughter, Maria Viktoria, was christened by Bishop Lech Kaczmarek in a humble wooden church surrounded by some 30,000 friends and supporters.

The martial law authorities kept Mr. Walesa from the ceremony despite pleas for his release by his wife and the Polish prime minister, evidently preferring to appear cold-hearted than to risk what could have turned into a major political demonstration.

Mr. Walesa, who was interned along with most leaders of the Solidarity free trade union when martial law was imposed in Poland on Dec. 13, has never seen Maria Viktoria, his seventh child who was born on Jan. 27.

There were no official police

Duarte promises to conduct personal enquiry into killing of Dutch newsmen

SAN SALVADOR (R) — President Jose Napoleon Duarte has promised to investigate personally the killing of four Dutch newsmen in northern El Salvador.

He said he believed an army report that they died in a clash between leftist guerrillas and security forces.

But he said he would go to the scene of the killing to conduct his

own inquiries and he invited journalists to accompany him to make their own investigations.

"Let's work together to find the truth," Mr. Duarte told reporters Saturday night at the hotel where most foreign journalists in El Salvador are staying.

In heated exchanges with reporters who demanded government guarantees to enable them to carry out their work safely, Mr. Duarte said it was difficult in a country at war to guarantee the safety of anyone—especially journalists who constantly crossed sides.

He said reporters were as much in danger with guerrillas as with the security forces because no one was safe when the two sides shot at each other.

Foreign correspondents in El Salvador have been edgy since the killing of the four Dutchmen and the reported harassment of other journalists by government forces.

Three Brazilian newsmen who said they were shot at by guerrillas on Friday left the country Saturday, saying they were frightened.

Mr. Duarte said it was understandable that journalists were tense and anxious, but they should maintain calm and not regard every action by the security forces

as a personal threat to them. The Dutch government has demanded a full investigation into the deaths of the four Dutchmen, and Ambassador Johannes Spuyt van Woerden arrived from Mexico on Friday to begin preliminary inquiries.

Mr. Duarte said he would go to the scene of the killing in the next two or three days.

Rebels and elections

He also said intelligence reports indicated that the guerrillas planned to intensify their activities from Wednesday to try to disrupt constituent assembly elections next Sunday.

The guerrillas would try to sow panic and confusion among the people to frighten them from voting, President Duarte said.

But he said the security forces were on alert to counter the guerrilla attacks and he expressed confidence that people would turn out in force to vote in what he described as El Salvador's first free elections in 50 years.

Military sources said guerrillas Saturday attacked the town of Triunfo in Usulután, 120 kilometres east of San Salvador.

Americans fear another Vietnam in El Salvador

NEW YORK (A.P.) — A majority of Americans believe El Salvador could become another Vietnam and want the United States to stay out of the Central American country, a New York Times-CBS poll indicates.

The poll results, which appeared in Sunday editions of the Times, also show that the public disapproves — 42 per cent to 26 per cent — of the way President Ronald Reagan is handling the situation. Many also believe U.S. troops will be sent in soon.

According to the New York Times, 63 per cent of those polled responded "stay out" when asked what specific action the U.S. government should take in El Salvador. Only 16 per cent favoured the Reagan administration's present response, sending economic and military aid, while six per cent felt American troops should be used.

Sixty per cent said they feared the U.S. would get involved in El Salvador the way it did in Vietnam. And 41 per cent of Americans think the Reagan administration will send U.S. combat troops to El Salvador "in the near future."

A majority of every subgroup in the poll, including Republicans and conservatives, was opposed to entering El Salvador.

The poll is based on telephone interviews conducted between March 11 and March 15 with 1,545 people around the United States. The Times reports the poll has a three percentage points margin of error in either direction.

Perez de Cuellar sets up house before hitting world headlines

By Michael Littlejohns
Reuter

He has refrained from taking an initiative, beyond chivvying the negotiators.

In the Middle East, he believes that the U.N. must continue to have a significant role in peace-making, but there also he has refrained from risking his personal prestige or even from saying much in public about the Arab-Israeli conflict.

So little, in fact, that some Arab delegates are said to feel he is too circumspect and that a little more support for their cause would not come amiss.

Since he took over from Mr. Waldheim on Jan. 1, Mr. Perez de Cuellar has emphasised his role as chief administrative officer, an aspect of the secretary-generalship that his politically minded predecessor found little to his taste.

The new man inherited a dispirited staff, disaffected by years of governmental intrusion into personnel affairs. In his first days, he set about changing that situation, warning member states that staff matters are the secretary-general's prerogative and that appointments and promotions henceforth would be made on a basis of merit, not politics.

Women staff were especially unhappy with the Waldheim administration, which they regarded as sexist and discriminatory.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar responded by appointing a woman assistant secretary-general, Leila Doss of Egypt, as director of personnel and another assistant secretary-general, Margaret Anstee of Britain, as head of the appointments and promotions board.

He went on to name Lucille Mair of Jamaica to be the first woman to serve as under secretary-general, the rank immediately below his own.

And he promised there would be more women policy-makers. Also, he indicated that he will institute the U.N.'s equivalent for women of the affirmative action programme initiated for black workers in the United States. "Particular measures are necessary to ensure that women are not blocked from advancing because of their gender," he told the staff.

His appointment of a black

woman as under secretary general is regarded as evidence of his will to change the system. Already, the proportion of women in professional posts is up to 32 per cent of the total number of jobs at the New York headquarters.

U.N. agencies abroad continue to lag in this area and Mr. Perez de Cuellar has called for "most intense efforts" to redress the imbalance in their male and female staffs.

He is expected to press the point when he meets the agency chiefs in Rome.

While the U.N. has a long way to go to meet the demands of women militants on the staff, many feel that the secretary general is on the right lines. Male career staff appear to be happy with his repeated warnings against government interference.

He was reported to have delivered the warning personally to the Soviet delegate, Oleg Tropyansky.

For years, the Soviet Union has been seeking more and more key secretariat posts for its nominees.

On a recent visit to one department, Mr. Perez de Cuellar remarked that three of five directors were from the Soviet Union.

The secretary general feels that he is free to run the U.N. administration as he thinks fit, regardless of individual states' interests, except in the very top jobs traditionally reserved for political patronage.

The accession of a diplomat from Peru to succeed Mr. Waldheim, who is Austrian, was a filip for the Latin American states and a blow to the Africans, who sought the post for Salim Ahmad Salim of Tanzania.

He was vetoed by the United States.

Some observers feel that African influence in the U.N. may have diminished. For their part, the Latin Americans seem more self-confident and assertive than before. The expected shift to a Spanish language bias has yet to happen.

Most of Mr. Perez de Cuellar's major public statements to date have been made in English, which remains the working language of U.N. diplomacy.

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MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

Owen supports 'demilitarised' Palestinian state

BEIRUT (R) — A former British foreign secretary was Sunday quoted as supporting the creation of a demilitarised Palestinian state after a transitional period of autonomy for the occupied West Bank. David Owen, a co-founder of Britain's year-old Social Democratic Party (SDP), told the Beirut English-language weekly, Monday Morning, that a Palestinian homeland was "a right, though the West Bank would almost certainly need to be demilitarised. It is perfectly legitimate for Palestinians to argue that the homeland should become a state... but that can only come through negotiations within the region," he added in what the magazine called a presentation of SDP Middle East policy. Dr. Owen, who served as foreign secretary in James Callaghan's Labour government, said the European Economic Community (EEC) had been right to say in its 1980 Venice declaration that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) should be involved in the peace process.

He also said intelligence reports indicated that the guerrillas planned to intensify their activities from Wednesday to try to disrupt constituent assembly elections next Sunday.

The guerrillas would try to sow panic and confusion among the people to frighten them from voting, President Duarte said.

But he said the security forces were on alert to counter the guerrilla attacks and he expressed confidence that people would turn out in force to vote in what he described as El Salvador's first free elections in 50 years.

Military sources said guerrillas Saturday attacked the town of Triunfo in Usulután, 120 kilometres east of San Salvador.

Khomeini takes leave, 5 killed in Tehran clashes

BEIRUT (A.P.) — Five anti-government guerrillas died in clashes with supporters of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini Sunday and the aging Iranian revolutionary leader announced he was taking a 10-day rest from all official duties, state radio reported. Ayatollah Khomeini, who is 82 and has a heart condition, tried to fake a 20-day break last month. He returned to public life after about 10 days when speculation arose in the West that he might be terminally ill. The patriarch of the Iranian revolution said in a 40-minute speech Sunday that if the clergy-dominated regime were to be toppled tomorrow, "no one could take over and run Iran better" than himself and his loyalists. Tehran Radio reported revolutionary guards raided a hideout in a north Tehran neighbourhood where anti-government guerrillas of the Mujahadeen-e-Khalq battled the guards Sunday morning. The radio said five Mujahadeen were killed.

He is expected to press the point when he meets the agency chiefs in Rome.

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Angry mystery buffs besiege Times over Masquerade hare

LONDON (A.P.) — Devotees of the children's book "Masquerade," which was laced with clues to a buried treasure, have deluged The Sunday Times of London with complaints that the treasure's discovery last month was rigged, the newspaper reported Sunday.

The Times said it had received "dozens of letters and telephone calls" over the good fortune of a 48-year-old British car designer who unearthed a gold, jewel-encrusted hare pendant buried in August 1979 by the book's author, Kit Williams. The book rocketed onto the best-seller lists and prompted a 2½-year international treasure hunt.

The engineer, who has asked to remain anonymous, solved some of Masquerade's clues, but his dog finally led him to within a few metres of where he unearthed the treasure Feb. 24 — near a cross dedicated to King Henry VIII's first wife, Catherine of Aragon, in a

park in Amptill, England, 69 kilometres northwest of London. The man finally dug up the pendant after first checking with Mr. Williams to be sure he'd found the right spot.

News of the discovery was first disclosed in The Sunday Times. "Masquerade" addicts, many of whom are clearly obsessed by the book, accused him. The Sunday Times, the author, Kit Williams, and the publishers, Jonathan Cape, of taking part in a conspiracy," the paper said Sunday.

"Most allege that (the man) was probably guided to the hare by Williams, although no one seems able to explain why the author should want to end the search — particularly just before the paperback version of 'Masquerade' is published."

Mr. Williams had denied being of any assistance to the finder and says he would have confirmed the spot for any one else who'd deduced it.

Greece needs strengthening of fire power, premier says

LARISA, Greece (R) — Greece needs to strengthen and modernise its armed forces because of international dangers and tension in the Aegean, Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu said Saturday.

Addressing about 700 military officers at the headquarters here of the First Army, Mr. Papandreu said that under a 10-year programme running from 1981 the government would "reinforce and modernise the weaponry of the armed forces so as to be ready to face any threat."

He did not say how much money was allocated to the programme. Greece and Turkey have been

in dispute for years over air and sea boundaries in the Aegean and over Cyprus. Relations have deteriorated since Mr. Papandreu's Socialist government took power last October.

Mr. Papandreu said Turkey had violated Greece's Aegean continental shelf in 1976 and continued to violate its air space in the same area.

"These acts and recent statements by the Turkish leadership make clear that the strategy of Turkey is to shrink our national territory," he said.

"It is therefore the duty of the Greek government and of the people towards the armed forces to make them ready to face any threat," he added.

Major earthquake hits northern Japan

TOKYO (A.P.) — A major earthquake hit northern Japan Sunday, injuring at least 82 people, destroying houses and damaging roads and power lines, the Kyodo news agency said.

The earthquake measured 7.3 on the Richter scale of motion, making it capable of major damage, the Central Meteorological Agency (CMA) said. It hit the Pacific Ocean near Urakawa, a fishing village with a population of 20,000, at 11:32 a.m. Sunday (0232 GMT), the CMA reported.

Aftershocks rumbled for several hours through the village, located about 290 kilometres north of Tokyo on Hokkaido, the northernmost island in the Japanese archipelago.

Kyodo said 82 people were injured in and around Urakawa. The quake collapsed "a number of houses" and damaged local roads and railways, the agency said. All railways on Hokkaido island were stopped for rail inspection.

Power failures affected communications to and from the town, making it difficult to get precise information about damage, Kyodo said.

"I heard this tremendous sound coming from the ground, and I could not stand straight, although I was clinging to a column in my house," a Urakawa town official was quoted as saying by Kyodo.

Following the earthquake the CMA issued tidal wave warnings to the Pacific coast of Hokkaido and Northern Honshu.

The agency said the quake was only about half as powerful by the time it hit the main island of Honshu, where Tokyo is located.

The Richter scale is a measure of ground motion as recorded on seismographs. Every increase of one number means a tenfold increase in magnitude. Thus a reading of 7.5 reflects an earthquake 10 times stronger than one of 6.5.

An earthquake of 3.5 on the Richter scale can cause slight damage, four moderate damage, five considerable damage, six sev-

ere damage. A seven reading is a "major" earthquake, capable of widespread heavy damage, eight is a "great" quake, capable of tremendous damage.

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WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

29 bullet-ridden bodies found in Guatemala

GUATEMALA CITY (R) — Twenty-nine bodies, almost all with bullet wounds and signs of torture, were found in various parts of Guatemala in the last 24 hours, police reported Saturday. They said villagers discovered the bullet-ridden bodies of 13 Indians in a common grave down a deep ravine near the western Guatemala town of Chimaltenango. Another 12 corpses, some with slit throats and showing signs of torture as well as gunshot wounds, were found by local authorities in San Antonio in the southeastern province of Suchitepequez. Police said the dead were identified as peasants from the Pacific coastal zone. More than 750 people have been reported killed this year in Guatemala, where leftist guerrillas are trying to topple the army-backed government.

Panic follows earth tremors in Italy

NAPLES (R) — Strong earth